

3 Israeli soldiers wounded in attack

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Guerrillas wounded three Israeli soldiers with mortar fire on Tuesday in Israel's self-declared "security zone" in South Lebanon, an army spokesman said. One soldier was reported in serious condition after the attack in the zone's central sector just north of the Israeli border. The other two were slightly wounded. The firing came from outside the zone and the soldiers returned fire, the spokesman said. Military censors barred journalists from reporting the exact location of the incident. Last week, guerrillas killed an Israeli army captain and slightly wounded another Israeli soldier in a "security zone" gunbattle. Israel set up the zone after it withdrew the bulk of its forces from Lebanon in June 1985.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordanian Press Syndicate Foundation
جوردان تايمز مؤسسة الصحافة الأردنية "الراي"

Newborn doing well after surgery

AMMAN (J.T.) — A week-old child who underwent a heart surgery at the Queen Alia Heart Centre in Amman is doing well and is expected to be discharged in 10 days, according to Dr. Yousef Qousus, chief heart surgeon at the centre. Dr. Qousus told the Jordan Times that the boy had a transposition of blood vessels and had to undergo surgery for arterial switch last Thursday when he was only 18 hours old. The open heart surgery took place under unique conditions where the infant's body temperature had to be lowered to 18 degrees Centigrade and the body's blood circulation had to be temporarily stopped for 90 minutes. He said the 3.5-kilogramme boy was progressing normally and the operation was completely successful.

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Cabinet makes 2 appointments

AMMAN (Petra) — The Council of Ministers on Tuesday decided to appoint Dr. Tharad Saud Al Kadi, a former ambassador at the Foreign Ministry, to the Prime Ministry. The Cabinet also decided to appoint Mr. Awad Al Khaldi, currently Jordan's ambassador to Greece, as the Kingdom's non-resident ambassador to Cyprus.

Majali returns

AMMAN (Petra) — Deputy Prime Minister Abdul Wahab Al Majali returned to Amman Tuesday evening at the end of visits to Tunisia and Morocco which lasted 10 days. During the visits, Mr. Majali was received by Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba and held talks with senior officials on Jordanian-Tunisian cooperation in phosphate marketing. Similar talks were held during Mr. Majali's visit to Morocco.

Ammarin and Turk jailed for 15 years

ANKARA (R) — A Turkish military court on Tuesday sentenced a Jordanian embassy translator and a Turk to 15 years jail each for spying for Syria. The semi-official Anatolia news agency said, Adnan Mnsa Suleiman Ammarin, a long-term Jordanian resident of Turkey, and Ali Kent, a Turk of Iranian origin, were said in the indictment to have gathered information for Syria on military facilities and U.S. installations in Turkey. Both men may appeal. They were among nine people indicted last year for alleged involvement in the killing of Jordanian Embassy First Secretary Ziad Al Sati. But, in that case, the court did not proceed with Ammarin on grounds of diplomatic immunity.

Saudi and Moroccan monarchs meet

RABAT (R) — King Fahd of Saudi Arabia had talks lasting 90 minutes with King Hassan of Morocco at the royal palace in Fez, central Morocco, the national news agency MAF said Tuesday. It gave no details of the conversation. The Saudi monarch arrived in Fez on Thursday for what officials described as a private visit. King Fahd came to Morocco from neighbouring Algeria after a 24-hour official visit.

Reagan to hold TV press conference

WASHINGTON (R) — President Reagan, ending four months of semi-isolation from the press, will hold a televised news conference on Thursday night, the White House said Tuesday. Mr. Reagan is certain to be questioned extensively at the session (0100 GMT) about the secret sale of arms to Iran and diversion of profits to U.S.-backed "contra" rebels in Nicaragua.

Iran releases 76 Iraqi soldiers

GENEVA (R) — Seventy-six wounded Iraqi prisoners of war were flown home from Iran on Tuesday in an aircraft organised by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), an ICRC spokesman said. She said it was the first ICRC repatriation since 1985 of prisoners captured in the Gulf war, but there were no plans at present for a similar operation for Iranian prisoners.

Bomb explodes near Syrian post in Beirut

BEIRUT (Agencies) — A powerful bomb exploded near an American-affiliated university and a Syrian checkpoint in west Beirut on Tuesday, wounding one person and setting three cars on fire, police said.

The bomb, hidden under a green Mercedes-Benz, went off at 1:25 p.m. about 120 metres from the main gate to the kidnapped Beirut University College (BUC) in west Beirut's Qraitem district, witnesses reported.

No casualties were reported among BUC's 3,000 students, a short police report said.

Ambulances and fire engines, their sirens wailing, rushed to the scene of the bomb blast, the first in west Beirut since 7,500 Syrian soldiers backed by 100 tanks moved in Feb. 22 to contain inter-militia clashes.

Witnesses quoted by Reuters said the device exploded 300 metres from a Syrian checkpoint. Police said earlier it was only a few metres from the position.

The witnesses said Syrian troops briefly cordoned off the street in the Madama Curie area and searched cars at checkpoints.

Gunmen, disguised as riot policemen, kidnapped three American professors and an Indian teacher from the BUC campus Jan. 24.

A group calling itself Islamic Jihad for the Liberation of Palestine claimed holding the four educators. It originally offered to swap them for 400 Arab prisoners held in Israel, but later withdrew the offer.

Syria's military intelligence chief in Lebanon, Brigadier Ghazi Kanaan, told the wives of the four hostages on Tuesday their husbands would be freed soon.

"Kanaan was very helpful. He expressed his concern... in pursuing the release of our husbands," Fiyral Polhill said after the four women met Brig. Kanaan at his west Beirut office.

"He made us understand that certainly our husbands will be freed very soon," she told reporters.

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Kidnappers announce reprieve

BEIRUT (AP) — Kidnappers announced Tuesday they have postponed plans to kill French hostage Jean-Louis Normandin for one week and demanded new clarifications from France on its policy on terrorism and arms supplies to Iraq.

In a statement delivered to the independent Beirut newspaper An Nahar, the Revolutionary Justice Organisation claimed that the 35-year-old captive, a lighting engineer for France's Antenne-2 television, had confessed to spying for the French and Israeli secret services.

The three-page handwritten Arabic statement said the decision to postpone Mr. Normandin's "execution" was taken in response to pleas from Lebanon's Shi'ite Muslim clerics, the hostages' family and "secret pledges made by the French government to parties concerned."

"We announce the postponement of the execution of the death sentence for only one week beginning from the release of this statement," it said.

"During this week, (French) delegates should be dispatched to offer the necessary clarifications. This will either lead to improvement of the beginning of bloodletting."

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Israeli soldiers wound 3 Gaza students

GAZA CITY, Occupied Gaza Strip (Agencies) — Israeli troops opened fire on stone-throwing Palestinian demonstrators in two cities in the occupied Gaza Strip on Tuesday, wounding three.

An Israeli spokesman said troops opened fire when about 200 demonstrators threw stones at an army patrol in the town of Rafiah, about 30 kilometres south of Gaza City.

Palestinian sources in Gaza City identified the students as Ziad Ramani, 18, and Mahmud Muhammad Abu Rezik, 17, both students from Rafiah.

In a similar incident, Israeli police fired in the air to prevent demonstrators from passing through an army checkpoint in Gaza City, the spokesman said.

One demonstrator was wounded from a ricocheting bullet, he said.

About 600,000 Palestinians live in the occupied Gaza Strip where they have stepped up anti-Israeli protests since early this year.

Tuesday's demonstrations broke a lull in protests in the occupied territories throughout last month and early this month.

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Anti-Saudi pattern seen in latest Iranian attack on tanker

U.S. sees Iranian push in north front as insignificant

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — An Iranian gunboat fired at a Cyprus-registered tanker laden with 100,000 tonnes of Saudi Arabian crude oil in the southern sector of the Gulf waters during the night, Gulf-based marine salvage executives reported Tuesday.

The attack appeared to indicate an anti-Saudi pattern by Iran in its so-called tanker war with Iraq, said the executives.

They noted this was the second tanker connected with Saudi Arabia to be attacked by Iran in six days.

In London, Lloyds shipping intelligence unit identified the ship as the 232,104-tonne Pivort, formerly the Amoco Europa.

The Gulf executives said the gunboat fired a single surface-to-surface missile at the vessel as it sailed off the United Arab Emirates port of Dubai at 10:15 p.m. Monday.

The missile punched a small hole in the slop tank of the vessel's port side and started a fire which was quickly extinguished by the crew, they added.

Lloyds said the crew initially abandoned the tanker. It gave the location of the tanker when attacked as 24.50 degrees latitude north, and 55.08 degrees longitude east.

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Life creeps back to normal after Syrian deployment in west Beirut

BEIRUT (R) — When an argument over a parking space in west Beirut escalated to fist fights, a policeman remarked on a sign of the times.

"They're not fighting with guns," he said. "It hasn't been like this for years."

West Beirut is much changed since Feb. 22, the day 7,000 Syrian troops deployed and started rooting out militias to restore order to the mainly Muslim sector of the capital.

Militiamen, who cruised the streets in battle gear and thought nothing of firing machineguns from car windows to clear roads, have left or have melted back into civilian life.

Syrian soldiers search for gunmen at checkpoints and in house raids, aiming to instil respect for legal forces.

Even traffic police have made a comeback, signing parking tickets and bawling the noisy new traffic jams.

"Before, we avoided crowded areas for fear of trouble. Now traffic jams are a sign of peace," said taxi driver Abed Itani.

Militia anarchy had reigned in west Beirut since February 1984, when Syrian-backed Muslim and leftist militias drove out army troops loyal to Falangist President Amin Gemayel.

Kidnaps of foreigners, militia gunbattles and economic decline ended with an orgy of fighting between members of the Syrian-backed alliance, the event which triggered the Syrian troop de-

ployment.

Now, police say car thefts and burglaries have decreased. Foreign journalists are also back in west Beirut nearly a year after most left in the last major exodus of foreigners.

There was almost normal traffic and most night clubs and restaurants that opened were crowded with fashionably dressed young people, dancing and laughing.

Hala, a 24-year-old student, said it was the first time she had been out after months of family evenings at home, often spent blacked out by power cuts.

"It's great to see you. Now we are open until after midnight. Please tell all your friends," said a waiter at the crowded seafood Spaghetti Restaurant.

"We had to close the doors," said a guard at a discotheque at the Summerland Hotel. "It's the first time such a huge number of people has come."

But threats to stability remain in the Lebanese patchwork of militia-run enclaves.

Syrian troops have not deployed in the Shi'ite Muslim south Beirut, where radical gunmen still roam and foreign hostages are believed to be held. Syria has also to resolve the problems of thousands of guerril-

las in Beirut and South Lebanon loyal to Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, a Syrian foe.

Although hardline leaders in the Falangist enclave north east of Beirut are making conciliatory noises in current talks on political reforms to resolve the war, it is not clear how readily they will go along with Syrian-backed plans. Many of the enclave's 1.1 million inhabitants take pride in relative wealth and a certain independence and discipline imposed by the dominant Lebanese Forces militia.

Connected with west Beirut by only two difficult crossing points across the green line — often only metres wide — that splits the capital, the Falangist enclave offers stark contrasts to life elsewhere.

"I can hardly believe this is Lebanon," said a west Beirut resident looking at the twinkling lights sweeping up the mountains of Jounieh Bay and the flashing neon signs advertising night clubs and restaurants in Zouk.

"I have to go out at least three nights a week, otherwise I cannot work," said Claude, a young engineer sipping a drink in an intimate night spot where men and women danced as they have done for much of 12 years of war.

"We cannot be at war all the time," said Colette.

Lebanon can still boast a climate offering skiing in the morning and Mediterranean swimming in the afternoon. At weekends

Christian skiers crowd to a well-equipped resort in the snow-capped peaks of Mount Lebanon.

Even on a recent slow night at the Falangist enclave's Casino Du Liban, a new white Rolls Royce gleamed at the head of a row of new Mercedes, BMW and other luxury cars.

Guards frisked gamblers for weapons at the entrance — guns are ever-present in Lebanon — and hundreds of people tried their luck in spacious gambling halls offering roulette, blackjack, one-armed bandits and more.

Upstairs, an exclusive private club offered drinks of champagne and smoked salmon to rich men and fur-coated women, who sometimes risked what to other Lebanese might be a month's salary on a turn of the cards.

But despite all the outward signs of wealth, for many less fortunate Lebanese opportunities to eat out are limited by soaring inflation, fuelled by the collapse of the Lebanese currency.

"We earn in worthless Lebanese pounds and must spend in dollars," was one bitter comment.

Poverty is spreading everywhere in Lebanon and an aid worker in the Falangist enclave said organisers were now considering giving foreign food aid, originally intended for families displaced by fighting, to ordinary people.

"There are 25,000 families eligible in one Beirut district alone," she said.

Herzog to reduce sentences for Jewish terrorists

TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli President Chaim Herzog plans to reduce the life sentences of three Jewish guerrillas convicted of killing Palestinians in the occupied West Bank, a spokesman said Tuesday.

"The custom since the creation of the state is that two or three years after the start of their sentence, the president reduces their term to around 25 years," Herzog's spokesman, Ami Gluska, told Reuters.

"This is normal and customary and the president plans to announce this shortly in these three cases," he said.

Menachem Livni, Shaul Nir and Uri Shavatz were convicted of murder and sentenced to life imprisonment after carrying out an attack in 1982 on the Islamic College in the West Bank town of Hebron. Three Arab students were killed.

The Israelis belonged to an anti-Arab terrorist group called "The Jewish Underground," also responsible for a 1980 bombing that killed two Palestinian mayors and an attempt to destroy the Dome of the Rock Mosque.

In addition to the three sentenced to life terms, another five members of the group are still serving time.

Sudan: Ties with Iran will not affect Iraq

KHARTOUM, Sudan (AP) — Sudan's recently improved relations with Iran will not affect ties with Iraq, a Sudanese official said Tuesday.

"The source, speaking to reporters after a three-day visit by Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati, said it was natural for Sudan to restore diplomatic relations with Iran because both were Islamic countries."

He added, however, that Sudan would "maintain a balance in its relations" with Iraq and Iran, which have been warring since 1980.

The source, who spoke on condition of anonymity, spoke of a Sudanese "conciliatory effort" to end the Gulf war but gave no details.

Sudanese Prime Minister Sadek Al Mahdi visited Iran late last year and restored diplomatic relations with it to ambassadorial level as part of Khartoum's new policy of improving ties with all countries.

American Jewish leader condemns Israel over Pollard spy scandal

TEL AVIV (R) — A U.S. Jewish leader Tuesday strongly condemned Israel's appointment of an air force colonel implicated in the Pollard spy scandal as commander of a large air base.

Morris Abram, chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, said the decision to give Col. Aviem Sella command of the Tel Nof Air Base caused a "grievous and deep wound" in U.S.-Israeli relations.

"The recent appointment of... Sella was a serious and irresponsible act," Abram told a news conference.

Sella, a fighter ace, is alleged to have recruited U.S. Navy intelligence analyst Jonathan Pollard as an Israeli agent. The colonel has been indicted by a U.S. grand

jury on espionage charges and Pollard is serving a life term for spying.

Abram's statement, made after meetings with Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, was one of the strongest criticisms of Israel by an American Jewish leader since the Pollard scandal broke with his arrest in late 1985.

It went far beyond conciliatory statements made to reporters by visiting U.S. Army Secretary John Marsh, who held talks Tuesday on strategic matters with Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin.

"(The Pollard case) is simply an element that's occurred in our relationship," Marsh said. "It is small compared to the overall strength of our alliance."

Israeli leaders say the Pollard operation was carried out behind their backs by a now-disbanded unit of the Defence Ministry.

Abram said he viewed the case as being as serious as the Iran-contra affair in the United States. Abram indicated Israelis should expect no sympathy for Pollard from the American Jewish community of which the convicted spy was a member.

"Mr. Pollard is an American citizen who pleaded guilty to a serious crime... As an American, I say that he received nothing less than the due process of law," Abram said.

"Mr. Pollard showed no mercy towards the United States and his subsequent conduct has not shown concern for anybody but himself," he said.

Shamir claims no cabinet minister authorised recruiting Pollard to spy

TEL AVIV (AP) — Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir assured a leading American Jewish figure Tuesday that no Israeli cabinet member authorised the espionage operation that recruited U.S. Navy intelligence analyst Jonathan Pollard.

"He assures us there is no governmental minister responsible for the affair, and it should never have happened," said Morris Abram, chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major Jewish Organizations.

After a one-hour meeting with the Israeli premier, Abram told reporters Shamir "is deeply apologetic about it, and he assures us that it will never happen again."

Abram, head of a delegation of about 65 visiting American Jewish leaders, said in an Israel Television interview Monday night that the government has to "make sure that those who did take the bad action are not rewarded but indeed punished."

His remarks were apparently aimed at a senior Israeli air force officer, Aviem Sella, accused by a U.S. grand jury of recruiting Pollard, and Rafi Eitan, a former Mossad intelligence agent who ran the spy operation.

Both Sella and Eitan were promoted after the Pollard affair became public in November 1985. The promotions prompted

angry reactions from U.S. officials.

In a sign of the increasing political tension in Israel's coalition government as a result of the Pollard affair, Industry and Trade Minister Ariel Sharon blamed the Pollard affair on Peres, who was prime minister when Pollard was arrested in November 1985.

"The Pollard episode was tragic. But in my opinion our major problems were caused mainly by the handling of the episode by the prime minister in 1985, Shimon Peres," said Sharon, who is a leading member of Shamir's right-wing Likud bloc.

His remarks, made in a speech to young party activists in the Negev Desert town of Sderot Monday night and recovered by a member of the audience, were aired on Israel Army Radio Tuesday. Sharon called the station to complain that he had not intended his remarks for use by the media.

Pollard, 32, who is Jewish and said he was motivated by a love for Israel, was sentenced to life imprisonment for espionage and his wife Anne Henderson-Pollard got five years for helping him.

The liberal daily Haaretz reported that a two-member government-appointed panel would start an investigation of the Pollard affair on Wednesday. It also quoted an unnamed senior poli-

tical source as saying Eitan and Sella didn't act on their own initiative in using Pollard.

Israel Television reported Monday that the U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) is seeking to add Israel to its list of countries considered hostile from an intelligence standpoint.

Israel's inclusion in the list would mean that "the FBI will actively and routinely search for Israeli spies in the United States," the television's Washington correspondent said without elaborating.

The daily Davar newspaper reported last week the FBI suspected Israel had tried to recruit other Americans besides Pollard, particularly Jewish students and professors at American universities.

The Washington Post on Sunday quoted U.S. government sources as saying Pollard told investigators that when the Israelis initially recruited him, they showed him copies of highly classified U.S. documents they already possessed.

The paper said the episode raised the possibility that the Israelis already had another spy in the U.S. government at the time they recruited Pollard.

But Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin dismissed the reports Monday, repeating earlier Israeli statements.

Israel to weigh action against Pretoria

TEL AVIV (R) — Israel will consider imposing sanctions on South Africa, Communications Minister Amnon Rubinstein said amid reports that the United States will otherwise cut aid to Israel.

He told armed forces radio that Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir agreed to let him raise the issue at a cabinet meeting next Sunday.

"I suggested creating a ministerial committee to consider how to express our feeling and what sanctions for us to impose in the framework of free democracies opposed to apartheid," said

Rubinstein, of the centrist Shinui Party.

The Israeli Haaretz newspaper reported last week that Israel tops a U.S. State Department list of countries cooperating militarily with South Africa despite an international arms embargo. The list is to be submitted to Congress on April 1.

A U.S. law enacted last year authorises Congress to cut aid to countries violating the arms ban. Israel is receiving \$3 billion from the United States this year, \$1.8 billion of it in military aid.

Israeli leaders refuse to discuss their country's weapons deals, but Israel is believed to be a major arms supplier to Pretoria.

Israeli officials fear the final report will come down hard on Israel during a period of strained relations with Washington over the role of Israelis in the Jonathan Pollard spy case and the Iran-contra affair.

Israel condemns apartheid as racist, but officials say the Jewish state is reluctant to take any steps that could provoke a backlash against South Africa's estimated 115,000 Jews.

Oman clamps ceiling on dowries

MUSCAT, Oman (AP) — Sultan Qaboos has ruled that no man should pay more than 2,000 riyals (\$1,600) for his bride, no matter how attractive she is or how wealthy her family may be, his aides have reported.

The move is the latest bid by the ruler of Oman against what he calls the "evil" dowry system. The controversial subject of the amount paid by men to the parents of their prospective brides has become a focal point of the Sultan's annual "meet the people" tour currently in swing throughout the country.

The decision of Sultan Qaboos to clamp a ceiling on dowries was revealed by the Sultan's special adviser, Hamad bin Hamoud, in an interview with the government-owned Arabic-language newspaper Oman.

In the same report, Minister of Education Yahya Al Manthari said that a nationwide campaign against high dowries would be launched.

The dowry is the most contentious issue to be discussed in public here in recent years.

Chad peace moves look doomed

By Claude Regis
Reuters

ABIDJAN — With Libya apparently massing troops in Sudan and government forces opening a third front in northern Chad, diplomatic moves to end the latest fighting in Chad seem to offer little chance of success.

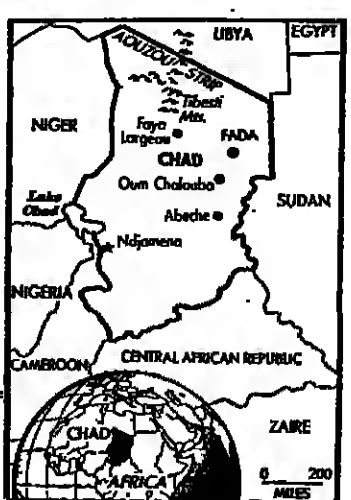
The evidence points to a war of attrition in the north of the vast central African country, where President Hissene Habre began a campaign late last year to drive out several thousand Libyan soldiers, political analysts say.

France, which has an estimated 2,400 troops in its former colony, is moving ever closer to the combat zones. France has said it had moved attack helicopters to eastern Chad, a region that had been reinforced with anti-aircraft weapons and radar installations in the past month.

The deployment followed Chad reports that Libya was sending troops through Sudan for an intended attack on Chad's eastern border.

France's force, sent back into Chad a year ago, was until last month stationed almost entirely around N'Djamena.

France says its role is limited to helping to defend government territory south of the 16th parallel, along which the country was



effectively partitioned after a Libyan and rebel onslaught in the summer of 1983.

However, the analysts say that France might be drawn more deeply into the conflict if Habre gets into trouble in the north.

Habre's forces, boosted by former rebel leader Goukouni Oueddei's guerrillas, crossed the so-called red line last year and are now operating throughout the north, including the Aouzou Strip, which was annexed by Libya in 1973.

In a two-pronged assault they moved into the rugged Tibesti Massif, in the far north west, and

the Ennedi Mountains, in the east, capturing the key oasis town of Fada last January in the process.

They have now opened a third front in the Borkou area, in the centre of northern Chad, around the oasis of Faya-Largeau. The oasis is the key to the whole Libyan military set-up in northern Chad and is defended by a big Libyan garrison.

Chad has reported fighting only 80 kilometres north west of Faya-Largeau but western military analysts do not expect a frontal assault on the oasis by Habre's forces.

They say Habre's National Armed Forces (FAN) and Goukouni's Popular Armed Forces (FAP) know the terrain well and can be expected to wage guerrilla raids on Libyan positions in a war of attrition embracing the whole of northern Chad. The Libyan-backed Transitional Government of National Union (GUNT) declared a three-day truce which the N'Djamena government ignored.

Mr. Habre, with his military and diplomatic standing stronger than ever, says he has hardly any opponents left and that what started as a civil war two decades ago is now a conflict waged by Libya against his own country.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 77111-19

PROGRAMME ONE

15:30 Kocan
16:05 Caricatures (Filastine)
16:10 Children's programme
17:00 Walt Disney
17:35 Circus
18:10 Arabic series
18:20 Local programme
20:30 News in Arabic
20:35 Message from Cairo
21:40 Arab series
21:45 Arab series
22:00 News in Arabic

PROGRAMME TWO

18:00 Des chiffres et des lettres
18:05 L'ecole des fans
19:15 News in French
19:30 Aujourd'hui en Jordanie
19:35 News in Hebrew
19:45 Varieties
20:00 News in Arabic
21:10 Three's a Crowd
21:20 Documentary: "A gentle way with cancer" (ep. 4)
22:00 Bestseller: Captains and the Kings eps. (7)

RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz. AM & 99 MHz. FM & partly on 95.0 KHz. SW Tel: 77111-19

07:30 Light Music
07:35 Newsdesk
08:00 Morning Show
10:00 Follow the Wind
10:05 Morning Show Contd.
11:00 Country Music
11:30 Songs from Movies
12:00 News Summary
12:05 Pop Session
13:00 News Summary
13:05 Pop Session
14:00 News Bulletin
14:10 Instruments
14:30 Concert Hour
15:00 News in Summary
16:05 Instruments
16:20 Old Favourites
17:00 Jordan Weekly
17:30 Pop Session
18:00 News Summary
18:05 Rock Profile
18:30 News Desk
19:00 News Desk
19:20 Date with a Star
20:00 Evening Show

BBC WORLD SERVICE

639, 720, 1233 KHz

06:00 Newsdesk 06:30 People and Pets
06:40 Book Choice 06:45 Reflections
06:50 Financial News 07:00 World News
07:05 24 Hours: News Summary
07:10 Report on Religion 07:15 The World Today 07:30 Newsdesk 07:35 Meridian 07:40 Newsdesk 07:45 World News Summary 07:50 24 Hours: News Summary 07:55 Development 08:00 World News 08:05 Newsdesk 08:10 World News Summary 08:15 24 Hours: News Summary 08:20 Development 08:25 World News 08:30 Newsdesk 08:35 Meridian 08:40 Newsdesk 08:45 World News Summary 08:50 24 Hours: News Summary 08:55 Development 09:00 World News 09:05 Newsdesk 09:10 World News Summary 09:15 24 Hours: News Summary 09:20 Development 09:25 World News 09:30 Newsdesk 09:35 Meridian 09:40 Newsdesk 09:45 World News Summary 09:50 24 Hours: News Summary 09:55 Development 10:00 World News 10:05 Newsdesk 10:10 World News Summary 10:15 24 Hours: News Summary 10:20 Development 10:25 World News 10:30 Newsdesk 10:35 Meridian 10:40 Newsdesk 10:45 World News Summary 10:50 24 Hours: News Summary 10:55 Development 11:00 World News 11:05 Newsdesk 11:10 World News Summary 11:15 24 Hours: News Summary 11:20 Development 11:25 World News 11:30 Newsdesk 11:35 Meridian 11:40 Newsdesk 11:45 World News Summary 11:50 24 Hours: News Summary 11:55 Development 12:00 World News 12:05 Newsdesk 12:10 World News Summary 12:15 24 Hours: News Summary 12:20 Development 12:25 World News 12:30 Newsdesk 12:35 Meridian 12:40 Newsdesk 12:45 World News Summary 12:50 24 Hours: News Summary 12:55 Development 13:00 World News 13:05 Newsdesk 13:10 World News Summary 13:15 24 Hours: News Summary 13:20 Development 13:25 World News 13:30 Newsdesk 13:35 Meridian 13:40 Newsdesk 13:45 World News Summary 13:50 24 Hours: News Summary 13:55 Development 14:00 World News 14:05 Newsdesk 14:10 World News Summary 14:15 24 Hours: News Summary 14:20 Development 14:25 World News 14:30 Newsdesk 14:35 Meridian 14:40 Newsdesk 14:45 World News Summary 14:50 24 Hours: News Summary 14:55 Development 15:00 World News 15:05 Newsdesk 15:10 World News Summary 15:15 24 Hours: News Summary 15:20 Development 15:25 World News 15:30 Newsdesk 15:35 Meridian 15:40 Newsdesk 15:45 World News Summary 15:50 24 Hours: News Summary 15:55 Development 16:00 World News 16:05 Newsdesk 16:10 World News Summary 16:15 24 Hours: News Summary 16:20 Development 16:25 World News 16:30 Newsdesk 16:35 Meridian 16:40 Newsdesk 16:45 World News Summary 16:50 24 Hours: News Summary 16:55 Development 17:00 World News 17:05 Newsdesk 17:10 World News Summary 17:15 24 Hours: News Summary 17:20 Development 17:25 World News 17:30 Newsdesk 17:35 Meridian 17:40 Newsdesk 17:45 World News Summary 17:50 24 Hours: News Summary 17:55 Development 18:00 World News 18:05 Newsdesk 18:10 World News Summary 18:15 24 Hours: News Summary 18:20 Development 18:25 World News 18:30 Newsdesk 18:35 Meridian 18:40 Newsdesk 18:45 World News Summary 18:50 24 Hours: News Summary 18:55 Development 19:00 World News 19:05 Newsdesk 19:10 World News Summary 19:15 24 Hours: News Summary 19:20 Development 19:25 World News 19:30 Newsdesk 19:35 Meridian 19:40 Newsdesk 19:45 World News Summary 19:50 24 Hours: News Summary 19:55 Development 20:00 World News 20:05 Newsdesk 20:10 World News Summary 20:15 24 Hours: News Summary 20:20 Development 20:25 World News 20:30 Newsdesk 20:35 Meridian 20:40 Newsdesk 20:45 World News Summary 20:50 24 Hours: News Summary 20:55 Development 21:00 World News 21:05 Newsdesk 21:10 World News Summary 21:15 24 Hours: News Summary 21:20 Development 21:25 World News 21:30 Newsdesk 21:35 Meridian 21:40 Newsdesk 21:45 World News Summary 21:50 24 Hours: News Summary 21:55 Development 22:00 World News 22:05 Newsdesk 22:10 World News Summary 22:15 24 Hours: News Summary 22:20 Development 22:25 World News 22:30 Newsdesk 22:35 Meridian 22:40 Newsdesk 22:45 World News Summary 22:50 24 Hours: News Summary 22:55 Development 23:00 World News 23:05 Newsdesk 23:10 World News Summary 23:15 24 Hours: News Summary 23:20 Development 23:25 World News 23:30 Newsdesk 23:35 Meridian 23:40 Newsdesk 23:45 World News Summary 23:50 24 Hours: News Summary 23:55 Development

VOICE OF AMERICA

MW 1230 & SW 7200, 9505, 11740, 11925 and 12310 KHz

05:00 News 05:10 Newsline 05:30 VOA Morning 06:00 News 06:10 Newsline 06:30 VOA Morning 07:00 News 07:10 Newsline 07:30 VOA Morning 08:00 News 08:10 Newsline 08:30 VOA Morning 09:00 News 09:10 Newsline 09:30 VOA Morning 10:00 News 10:10 Newsline 10:30 VOA Morning 11:00 News 11:10 Newsline 11:30 VOA Morning 12:00 News 12:10 Newsline 12:30 VOA Morning 13:00 News 13:10 Newsline 13:30 VOA Morning 14:00 News 14:10 Newsline 14:30 VOA Morning 15:00 News 15:10 Newsline 15:30 VOA Morning 16:00 News 16:10 Newsline 16:30 VOA Morning 17:00 News 17:10 Newsline 17:30 VOA Morning 18:00 News 18:10 Newsline 18:30 VOA Morning 19:00 News 19:10 Newsline 19:30 VOA Morning 20:00 News 20:10 Newsline 20:30 VOA Morning 21:00 News 21:10 Newsline 21:30 VOA Morning 22:00 News 22:10 Newsline 22:30 VOA Morning 23:00 News 23:10 Newsline 23:30 VOA Morning 24:00 News 24:10 Newsline 24:30 VOA Morning 25:00 News 25:10 Newsline 25:30 VOA Morning 26:00 News 26:10 Newsline 26:30 VOA Morning 27:00 News 27:10 Newsline 27:30 VOA Morning 28:00 News 28:10 Newsline 28:30 VOA Morning 29:00 News 29:10 Newsline 29:30 VOA Morning 30:00 News 30:10 Newsline 30:30 VOA Morning 31:00 News 31:10 Newsline 31:30 VOA Morning 32:00 News 32:10 Newsline 32:30 VOA Morning 33:00 News 33:10 Newsline 33:30 VOA Morning 34:00 News 34:10 Newsline 34:30 VOA Morning 35:00 News 35:10 Newsline 35:30 VOA Morning 36:00 News 36:10 Newsline 36:30 VOA Morning 37:00 News 37:10 Newsline 37:30 VOA Morning 38:00 News 38:10 Newsline 38:30 VOA Morning 39:00 News 39:10 Newsline 39:30 VOA Morning 40:00 News 40:10 Newsline 40:30 VOA Morning 41:00 News 41:10 Newsline 41:30 VOA Morning 42:00 News 42:10 Newsline 42:30 VOA Morning 43:00 News 43:10 Newsline 43:30 VOA Morning 44:00 News 44:10 Newsline 44:30 VOA Morning 45:00 News 45:10 Newsline 45:30 VOA Morning 46:00 News 46:10 Newsline 46:30 VOA Morning 47:00 News 47:10 Newsline 47:30 VOA Morning 48:00 News 48:10 Newsline 48:30 VOA Morning 49:00 News 49:10 Newsline 49:30 VOA Morning 50:00 News 50:10 Newsline 50:30 VOA Morning 51:00 News 51:10 Newsline 51:30 VOA Morning 52:00 News 52:10 Newsline 52:30 VOA Morning 53:00 News 53:10 Newsline 53:30 VOA Morning 54:00 News 54:10 Newsline 54:30 VOA Morning 55:00 News 55:10 Newsline 55:30 VOA Morning 56:00 News 56:10 Newsline 56:30 VOA Morning 57:00 News 57:10 Newsline 57:30 VOA Morning 58:00 News 58:10 Newsline 58:30 VOA Morning 59:00 News 59:10 Newsline 59:30 VOA Morning 60:00 News 60:10 Newsline 60:30 VOA Morning 61:00 News 61:10 Newsline 61:30 VOA Morning 62:00 News 62:10 Newsline 62:30 VOA Morning 63:00 News 63:10 Newsline 63:30 VOA Morning 64:00 News 64:10 Newsline 64:30 VOA Morning 65:00 News 65:10 Newsline 65:30 VOA Morning 66:00 News 66:10 Newsline 66:30 VOA Morning 67:00 News 67:10 Newsline 67:30 VOA Morning 68:00 News 68:10 Newsline 68:30 VOA Morning 69:00 News 69:10 Newsline 69:30 VOA Morning 70:00 News 70:10 Newsline 70:30 VOA Morning 71:00 News 71:10 Newsline 71:30 VOA Morning 72:00 News 72:10 Newsline 72:30 VOA Morning 73:00 News 73:10 Newsline 73:30 VOA Morning 74:00 News 74:10 Newsline 74:30 VOA Morning 75:00 News 75:10 Newsline 75:30 VOA Morning 76:00 News 76:10 Newsline 76:30 VOA Morning 77:00 News 77:10 Newsline 77:30 VOA Morning 78:00 News 78:10 Newsline 78:30 VOA Morning 79:00 News 79:10 Newsline 79:30 VOA Morning 80:00 News 80:10 Newsline 80:30 VOA Morning 81:00 News 81:10 Newsline 81:30 VOA Morning 82:00 News 82:10 Newsline 82:30 VOA Morning 83:00 News 83:10 Newsline 83:30 VOA Morning 84:00 News

Jordan, Sudan to sign \$20m trade accord today

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Jordan and Sudan will sign a \$20 million counter-trade accord here on Wednesday, capping four days of discussions between the two sides at the undersecretary level.

Today's agreement, the first of its kind between the two countries, calls for exchanging goods worth \$20 million to be divided equally between Jordan and Sudan. The deal is reciprocal upon mutual request. Under Secretary at the Ministry of Trade and Industry Muhammad Al Saqqaf said Tuesday.

Although the volume of exchange as stipulated in the package is below the level of mutual aspirations regarding economic ties, it affords a high increase of trade transactions between Jordan and Sudan, compared to the four previous years, Mr. Saqqaf said.

In an interview with the Jordan Times on the eve of signing the accord, Mr. Saqqaf said Sudan would import Jordanian pharmaceutical products, construction materials, clothes, electrical appliances, household equipment and other commodities, according to their list of import priorities. In line with the agreement, Jordan will import sesame, raw leather, white corn, henna, mango juice concentrates, cotton and spices.

The two countries' trade trans-

actions, which were earlier carried out on an instant cash-payment basis, witnessed a remarkable decline after 1982, when Sudan was struck by a severe drought.

Available statistical figures on the volume of Jordan's exports and imports to Sudan between 1982 and 1986 reveal the Kingdom sold Sudan goods worth JD 605,000, JD 319,000, JD 109,000, JD 93,000 and JD 160,000 respectively over the period.

The export of Sudanese products to Jordan over the same period was put at JD 1,300,000, JD 1,700,000, JD 109,000, JD 349,000 and JD 235,000 in sequence.

The four-day meetings were chaired by Mr. Saqqaf and his Sudanese counterpart Omar Muharak Abu Zaid. The Sudanese delegation arrived here on Saturday.

Prince Hassan receives Sudanese official

His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan on Tuesday received Mr. Abu Zaid for discussions on ways of promoting bilateral ties. The meeting was attended by Minister of Trade and Industry Rajal Mueasher.

The Sudanese economic delegation also toured a number of Jordanian public and private sector trade and industrial institutions to obtain first-hand information on available export-oriented industries.

Princess Basma opens course for Arab guides

AMMAN (Petra) — Her Royal Highness Princess Basma, honorary president of the Jordanian girl guides movement, on Tuesday opened an advanced training course for girl guides organised by the Arab guides office in cooperation with the Jordanian girl guides society.

Guides from Jordan, Kuwait, Egypt, Lebanon, Oman, Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates and North Yemen are taking part in the eight-day training course. Addressing the opening session, Princess Basma said that the scout and guide movement is part of an overall educational process.

Songs for and from the soul

By Jean-Claude Elias
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A song recital by French singer Christiane Mouron, organised by the French Cultural Centre in Amman in cooperation with "Le Cercle des Femmes Françaises de Jordanie," is expected to attract all those who are fond of good quality songs.

Traditional, yet quite modern, Christiane Mouron has an exceptionally beautiful voice, writes lyrics that you can understand, and possesses an irresistible power to make you listen closely to her. Definitely modern, she uses great rhythms and harmonies, sometimes swinging between jazz and popular French songs. Contrary to the usual numbers which make the charts and that one generally forgets after a couple of weeks, her songs are the kind one likes more and more each time they are played.

MUSIC PREVIEW

Mouron has just won "Le Prix de la Chanson Française." She was also an important member of "Le Big Bazar," a group led by the well-known singer Michel Fugain. But you do not need to know all this to believe how



talented she is. Just listen to one of her tapes. Genuine emotions, and just enough vibrato in her voice to make the listener forget about anything else. The right dose is important and Mouron is an excellent alchemist who knows just how to blend humour (Le Salon de Thé — Tea Parlour) with anxiety (Je Cherche l'Entrée de Secours — Looking for the Emergency Entrance) and pure poetry (Tant qu'il y aura des Cloches).

Christiane Mouron's unique recital is scheduled to be staged at the French Cultural Centre on Wednesday March 18 at 8:30 p.m.



A SLICE OF JORDAN IN BERLIN: Jordan together with 142 countries and regions took part in the recently concluded International Tourism Exchange (ITE) exhibition held in West Berlin every year. The display, which was held between March 7 - 21, occupied a total of 25 halls included in the vast West Berlin exhibition grounds. International sectors of the travel and tourism industry attended the exhibition which attracted almost 66,000 businessmen and visitors. The picture shows some of the many visitors to the Jordanian stand at the exhibition (ITB Photo)

Arab-Americans gear up for higher profile in 1988 election campaigns

By Salameh B. Ne'matt
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Arab-Americans are sharpening their wits and political strategies, and getting ready for "higher visibility" in the 1988 presidential and congressional campaigns in the United States. Past achievements give hope for the future, but the challenges, according to Arab-American leaders, remain very real.

"Anti-Arab discrimination is a fact of life in America," one Arab-American leader said. "But America doesn't hate Arabs."

Speaking to journalists here on Monday, at a tele-conference from Washington D.C., Dr. James Zogby, executive director of the Arab American Institute (AAI), explained that anti-Arab feelings in the United States come from "very identifiable forces" and that these forces "do not want to see us get ahead."

Mr. Mitchell Daniels, assistant to the president for political and intergovernmental affairs, urged a continued faith in the American democratic process.

Mr. Daniels, also speaking through the tele-conference link organised by the United States Information Service (USIS), said that violence and discrimination against Americans of Arab descent came from "small and not important groups."

Dr. Zogby and Mr. Daniels who spoke to journalists alternately, said that despite relentless destructive efforts by pro-Israeli groups, they were optimistic about the role that Arab-Americans could play in eliminating discrimination against them and realising a more balanced U.S. policy in the Middle East.

Violence against Arab-Americans according to Dr. Zogby "will unfortunately increase as

Arab-American strength grows." He specifically identified groups such as the Jewish Defence League (JDL) and the Anti-Defamation League to be behind acts of terrorism against Arab-Americans, such as assassinations, political as well as physical intimidation.

Both men agreed that Arab-Americans need to unite their efforts but warned against siding with either of the nation's two political parties. "Those who side with one camp, do so at their own detriment," Mr. Daniels said.

Responding to questions by a panel of Jordanian journalists, Dr. Zogby stressed the need for Arab-Americans to be independent from partisanship and affiliation with any particular political stance in the Arab World.

He explained that Arab-Americans need to carve themselves a different road from that followed by pro-Israeli groups in the United States. "We will not accept dictates by Arab states," Dr. Zogby said. "I'm an American and I am not going back anywhere." He stressed the importance of maintaining Arab-American independence and their concern for American national interests as a priority. "It hurts us to see American interests jeopardised in the Middle East."

He pointed out to the Pollard spy case and its implications of double loyalty for American Jews. "We don't want to do that," he said.

Mr. Daniels said he expected the Iranagate affair and its negative impact on the Republican party standing to subside as the economy continues to recover and show growth.

President Reagan, in a message to participants in the Arab American Institute conference held in Washington last week, said Arab-



James Zogby



Mitchell Daniels

Americans "have contributed greatly in every field, availing themselves of the freedoms and opportunities of this country."

More than 200 Arab-Americans from 26 states gathered in Washington between March 13-15 to attend AAI's third annual conference. Arab American votes are said to be effective in key American cities such as Chicago, Detroit, Houston and San Francisco.

Mr. Daniels, who left for a lunch meeting with President Reagan after the tele-conference, conveyed Mr. Reagan's greetings to His Majesty King Hussein.

Arab health ministers okay allocations to build Arab hospital in Jerusalem

AMMAN (Petra) — The Arab Health Ministers Council has given its approval for allocating funds needed to build an Arab hospital in occupied Arab Jerusalem in order to improve the health conditions of the local population and to make up for shortages in medical services in the occupied Arab territory. Minister of Health Zaid Hamzeh announced here Tuesday. The minister was speaking upon returning to Amman after representing Jordan at the council's meeting which was held in Sudan.

Dr. Hamzeh said that the hospital is needed to offer medical services to the Arab population of the holy city following Israel's closure of the Hospice Hospital in 1983 and to make up for shortages in medical services for the Arab population in the occupied West Bank in general.

The minister did not disclose the figures agreed upon at the council's meeting but said that a special committee in charge of the hospital project will receive funds in order to embark on the construction of the hospital's first phase.

The remainder of the amount needed for the project will be raised in Islamic nations in implementation of a resolution taken by the Islamic summit meeting held in Kuwait earlier this year, the minister pointed out.

He said that a board of trustees has been set up by the conference to tour Islamic nations and raise funds for this project. In addition, a health ministers council committee grouping the ministers of health in Jordan and Kuwait will visit Morocco in the coming month to meet with King Hassan II, who is chairman of the Jerusalem committee, in order to discuss the subject. The visit will

coincide with a meeting in Rabat of the Jerusalem committee which will review the outcome of the council's deliberations, the minister continued.

He said that the Arab health ministers discussed a host of questions which included the situation in Lebanon, the health conditions of the Lebanese people in the wake of the civil strife, and relief supplies to the victims in Lebanon and Palestinian refugee camps in Beirut.

The council passed a number of resolutions covering Arab regulations on radiation and pollution of the environment, blood transfusions, precautionary measures against AIDS and rules governing the general Arab medical board's examinations of doctors in various specialisations, Dr. Hamzeh said.

In addition, he said the council passed resolutions on the marketing of Arab pharmaceutical products, the registration of Arab medicines and drugs and setting up an Arab vaccines centre in

Amman.

The council decided to hold its next meeting in Amman in April 1987 and decided to endorse the nomination of Jordan as member of the executive council of the World Health Organisation (WHO) at the organisation's coming meeting. Dr. Hani Oweis from the Health Ministry will run for the vacant position, Dr. Hamzeh added.

Sudan's Prime Minister Al Sadeq Al Mahdi made a speech at the council's closing session paying tribute to Jordan for its support to the Sudanese people to help them overcome the effects of drought and famine and for providing medical help to the victims, Dr. Hamzeh added.

During his stay in Sudan the minister met with a number of Arab health ministers to discuss bilateral cooperation. Dr. Hamzeh also met with a group of people representing the Sudanese city of Kass where Jordanian medical teams have been providing medical assistance.

Federation to hold spring camp for the handicapped

AQABA (Petra) — The Jordan Sports Federation for the Handicapped (JSFH) will organise a 1987 spring camp in Aqaba on Friday under the patronage of His Highness Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid, the chief chamberlain.

The festival will be held at Al Thagher society for the care of handicapped people in the port city, according to Mr. Ibrahim Abu Halli, the president of the society. He said that the camp, which will remain open until July 26, will offer a chance to all members of the public and volunteers to orient themselves on the

needs of the handicapped and to offer help to the organisations which care for handicapped people in the Kingdom. At present the number of handicapped people in Aqaba stands at 300, Mr. Abu Halli added. He said that plans are going ahead for organising a competition for some 800 handicapped persons from different parts of the Kingdom. At least 105 handicapped persons are being employed in organising the camp's activities which will be carried out under the supervision of 45 specialists.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Tulkarm teachers thank King

AMMAN (Petra) — Ministry of Education employees and teachers in the Tulkarm region on the occupied West Bank of Jordan have voiced their appreciation and gratitude to His Majesty King Hussein for a recent government decision to improve their salaries. Their thanks were contained in a memorandum delivered Tuesday to Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Marwan Dattin from a delegation representing civil servants and teachers employed after the 1967 occupation of the Arab territory.

Queen to honour working women today

AMMAN (Petra) — Her Majesty Queen Noor will today patronise a ceremony for honouring Jordanian working women on the occasion of International Women's Day. At the ceremony, the Queen will distribute awards to 30 Jordanian women who have carried out distinguished work. Minister of Labour and Social Development Khaled Al Haj Hassan will deliver a speech outlining his ministry's programmes for developing the social and living standards of Jordanian women.

Second Airbus to arrive next month

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Royal Jordanian airline will take delivery of a second A310-300 Airbus plane in the coming month and the remainder of the six similar planes will be arriving in Jordan on schedule, according to Royal Jordanian Chairman of the Board Ali Ghandour. He said that the remaining four planes will be arriving in 1990 and will be employed on medium-range routes linking Amman with European countries and North Africa. Mr. Ghandour was speaking in a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, one day after Royal Jordanian took delivery of its first A310-300 Airbus plane which arrived at Queen Alia International Airport on Monday.

Dentistry conference slated for April 16

AMMAN (Petra) — The sixth Jordanian dentistry conference opens in Amman on April 16 and 400 dentists from Jordan are expected to take part in the meetings, according to a spokesman for the Jordanian Dentists Association (JDA), which is organising the event. The two-day conference, he said, will discuss 40 working papers and two seminars will be held during the conference to focus attention on subjects related to dental health. Also, there will be an exhibition of equipment used in dentistry, the spokesman added. A number of French and Egyptian lecturers will take part in the conference, to be held at the Royal Cultural Centre.

RJ places collection boxes at airport

AMMAN (Petra) — The Royal Jordanian airline has placed a number of boxes at terminals at the Queen Alia International Airport to collect contributions for charity. Three of these boxes, will benefit the Cerebral Palsy Foundation, a Royal Jordanian spokesman said. The move, he said, is to encourage travellers and visitors to contribute towards social and voluntary work in the Kingdom.

Commerce team leaves for E. Germany

AMMAN (Petra) — Chairman of the Federation of Jordanian Chambers of Commerce (FJCC) Hamdi Tabbaa has left for the German Democratic Republic at the head of a Jordanian delegation.

Society organises seminar to highlight dangers of smoking

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordanian national society for combating smoking will hold a seminar in Amman on April 20 to highlight the dangers of smoking and to bring to the attention of the Jordanian public the social problem of smoking in the Kingdom. A spokesman for the society said that several working papers that will be discussed are expected to focus attention on the adverse effects of smoking on social, agricultural, industrial and

economic development in Jordan. Smoking can be a major cause of heart disease, cancer and other serious diseases, the spokesman noted. He added that the papers will also highlight the roles which the Ministries of Education, Information and Health could play in helping people to give up smoking. Representatives of various organisations, universities and the private sector will take part in the one-day seminar.

JORDAN WELFARE LOTTERY

Ordinary issue No 339

Drawing of: March 17, 1987

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Holder of ticket No. **48972**
Wins JD 20,000

Holder of ticket No. **48549**
Wins JD 5,000

Holder of ticket No. **19961**
Wins JD 2,500

Holder of ticket No. **31483**
Wins JD 2,000

Holder of ticket No. **43407**
Wins JD 1,000

Holder of ticket No. **44572**
Wins JD 1,000

Holder of ticket No. **33508**
Wins JD 800

Holder of ticket No. **01054**
Wins JD 600

Ten consolation prizes totalling JD 800 each wins JD 80
48973 48982 48072 49972 58972
48971 48962 48872 47972 38972

Ten consolation prizes totalling JD 400 each wins JD 40
48540 48559 48649 49549 58549
48548 48539 48449 47549 38549

Ten consolation prizes totalling JD 200 each wins JD 20
19962 19971 19061 10961 29961
19960 19951 19861 18961 09961

Ten consolation prizes totalling JD 100 each wins JD 10
31484 31493 31583 32483 41483
31482 31473 31383 30483 21483

Ten consolation prizes totalling JD 80 each wins JD 8
43408 43417 43507 44407 53407
43406 43497 43307 42407 33407

Ten consolation prizes totalling JD 60 each wins JD 6
44573 44582 44672 45572 54572
44571 44562 44472 43572 34572

Ten consolation prizes totalling JD 40 each wins JD 4
33509 33518 33608 34508 43508
33507 33598 33408 32508 23508

Ten consolation prizes totalling JD 20 each wins JD 2
01055 01064 01154 02054 11054
01053 01044 01954 00054 51054

Ticket numbers **53612 50062 58855 14154** win JD 200 each

Ticket numbers **53931 03180 54671** win JD 100 each

TICKETS ENDING WITH

1557 7260 5208 4624 3705 Win JD 20 each

4061 6462 1506 2270 4106 Win JD 10 each

627 007 163 207 793 Win JD 5 each

6000 tickets ending with **6** Win JD 2 each.

COVER PRIZES FOR THE LOTTERY SELLERS

Thirty covers, attached to the stub of 10 ending in **897 082 196 972 221** Win JD 10

Winners of the grand prizes in the ordinary issue number **338** of March 2, 1987

Subri Ghalib Jordan — Corruptor Half first JD 10,000	Al-Sayed Salameh Amman — Builder Half first JD 10,000	Rabbah Al Dabbas Salt — Driver Half second JD 2,500	Ibrahim Asad Amman — Merchant Half second JD 2,500	Firas Al-Jaloud Amman — Student Half third JD 1,250	Fatma Spakul Amman — Housewife Half third JD 1,250	Shabbab Oshak Jordan — Labourer Half fourth JD 1,000

Next Drawing takes place on **April 2, 1987**

First eight biggest prizes are issued from GUVS headquarters.

Jordan Times

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Testing ground

THE regular six-monthly session of Arab League foreign ministers in Tunis on April 1 has a special significance; it comes when the time is ripe to push for a comprehensive settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict and the Palestinian problem which lies at the core of all problems in the Middle East. The meeting follows the endorsement by the European Community (EC) of the idea for an international Middle East conference under U.N. auspices, and renewed international interest towards convening such a forum. Washington, which is reeling from the political fallout of the Iran arms scandal, could be pushed to move beyond its reluctant acceptance of the conference idea and assume a more active role.

On the other end of the balance of course is the split within the Israeli government over the issue; but let us look on the brighter side of the situation. Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, who is backed by the so-called moderate elements in Israel, has committed his country to attending the proposed conference. The atmosphere is full of expectations and revived hopes, but at the same time the Arab foreign ministers' meeting in Tunis could also use the situation to test the real American and Israeli intentions, which, more often than not, are influenced by the status of unity within the Arab World. The off-beat criticism in the international scene is that the Arabs are unable to "get their act together." Is it too much to ask, and to expect from the Tunis meeting, for a unified Arab stand to challenge Israel and its superpower ally to show their true colours?

Arab flexibility is the need of the day; and Jordan has set the example for maximum flexibility without having to surrender Arab honour and dignity or the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people. But are the rest of the Arab states ready for such a critical test, the outcome of which could determine the future course of the Palestinian struggle? Are they ready to bury their petty differences for the cause of Palestine?

No-one needs any reminders of the formidable obstacles to convening an international conference. The Israeli split over the issue, American hesitancy and Soviet and Chinese participation, are of course the major issues to be considered. At the same time, the absence of a united Arab stand discourages the international community at large from exerting any real efforts towards solving the Middle East problem.

That brings us to the crucial question: We are aware that the Tunis meeting could not very well take decisions, but the foreign ministers could pave the way for a gathering of Arab heads of state. If the Arab leaders could not get together to decide on a crucial issue that has been plaguing the Arab World for the past 37 years, what is the use of international efforts to solve the problem?

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: What do Iranians want?

THE constant threats by Iran's rulers about launching a decisive battle against Iraq prompts us to ask what are the real objectives of such offensives? And what do the Iranian rulers hope to achieve? It is clear from the battles over the past six years, that the Iranians were not able to achieve anything largely of course due to the solid and firm position of Iraq and the defence and resistance the Iranians continue to face. The answer to the question also lies in the reality which the Iranians are facing in the battlefield. They have big dreams of course, but none of them is coming true, and the great victory in the minds of the regime in Tehran will remain a mere dream that can never be achieved. The Iranians baying found themselves unable to achieve any successes continue to brag about a decisive battle which they would launch on Iraq and achieve a final victory. But in the meantime, they continue to send thousands of Iranian young people to their death by forcing them to go to the battlefield, well aware that they will not fulfil the dreams of the Tehran rulers and realising in advance that these troops will end up dead or taken prisoner. The regime in Tehran is stalling and trying to prolong the duration of the war as long as possible since their own fate has been decided, because it is closely connected with this conflict and will remain in power as long as the war lasted. On the other hand, Iran continues to suffer from internal divisions and from material and human losses; and the people of Iran continue to lose as they wait for their leaders to achieve an imaginary victory.

Al Dustour: Confronting the enemy

AT the end of the Islamic Awakening seminar in Amman, Prince Hassan issued a warning to the Islamic masses against the Zionist danger and Israel. He said that the Zionists continue to seek a fragmentation of the Arab World and the balkanisation of countries around the state of Israel so that the Jewish state will remain powerful and dominating the whole region. One close look at history reveals that Zionism has succeeded in achieving part of this goal by first establishing the state of Israel itself which serves as a poisoned dagger stabbing the backs of the Arab states. Having established a base amidst the Arab region, Zionism is now bent on launching aggression on the Arab countries and at the same time consolidating its hold on Arab territory seized since 1967. Israel's intention of continuing its present policy and its objective of imposing domination on Arab lands appears quite clear in a document prepared by a special committee chaired by former defence minister Ariel Sharon. For this reason, Prince Hassan called Muslim nations to strengthen their stand and confront common challenges with greater self confidence. This can be achieved by real democratic rule, and by deepening on sound scientific and religious concepts.

Sawt Al Shaab: Beirut enjoys peace

WEST Beirut these days enjoys calm and peace that the city has missed for years, and this is no doubt, due largely to the imposition of force against the militia groups that used to cause so much fear and destruction in the Lebanese capital. Another reason for this peace and quiet is the quick and constructive response to the new arrangements by the leaders of Lebanon's political parties who hope now that this quiet and this peace will gradually spread across Lebanon to prevail in all regions. But this achievement can be considered as only a prelude to a total reconciliation among the various warring groups and the settlement of the whole issue through a just and lasting formula acceptable to all parties and factions. At the same time, efforts are underway for holding a meeting between the presidents of Lebanon and Syria for the sake of arriving at general outlines for a lasting solution, and the Lebanese people attach great hopes on these efforts and are awaiting their success. But it should be stated that the making of peace takes some time to be completed in view of the divergent views and the existence of disputes and divisions among the militias and their leaders and the political parties that dominate them. But at least the ground has now been paved for further steps to be taken towards a lasting peace.

Why Europe goes its own way

By John Palmer

The decision of the twelve European Community states to back a Middle East international peace conference, which they took in Brussels on 23 February, marks a new stage in the Europeans' campaign to give the EEC a sharper international political profile. It is motivated in part by real fears of the consequences of the protracted stalling in the peace-making process but also by a desire to assert its own views on the future of the Middle East against those of the United States.

After the 23 February meeting EEC foreign ministers cautioned against any exaggerated expectations about a speedy agreement on how an international conference might be constituted. The Twelve were also anxious not to give the impression that they would launch themselves into a kind of high profile public Middle East initiative as the Community did with the famous Venice declaration of 1980. The British and West Germans, in particular, are anxious not to move further or faster than the main parties involved in the region. But while the energetic Belgian foreign minister, Mr. Leo Tindemans, the current president of the EEC council of ministers, may be held in check, the Twelve will be actively involved in discussions about the constitution and timing of any conference.

The Europeans are particularly concerned that the actions of the Reagan administration in the Middle East, notably the arms sales to Iran, threaten "Western interests" as a whole. They know that Jordan's relations with the West are at an all time low and they want to take some initiative to help Jordan and the other moderate Arab regimes.

The Europeans are concerned that the actions of the Reagan administration in the Middle East, notably the arms sales to Iran, threaten "Western interests" as a whole. They know that Jordan's relations with the West are at an all time low and they want to take some initiative to help Jordan and the other moderate Arab regimes.

Community in particular.

For the moment the EEC is maintaining its limited sanctions against Damascus for the alleged involvement of a section of the regime in backing terrorist groups. But, with the exception of the British Prime Minister, Mrs. Thatcher, most EEC governments want to restore full diplomatic relations with Syria as soon as is decent.

The strong statement on the Middle East issued by the Twelve reflects the renewed priority being given to developing the Community's own foreign policy positions on world affairs. This is, above all, a reaction to the marked deterioration in transatlantic relations with the Reagan administration in the past year.

The European Community and the United States are, in truth, already involved in the opening salvos of an Atlantic trade war over matters ranging from farm exports to the European Airbus. There are also marked differences between the Americans and the Europeans over international economic and financial matters, not least because of what the EEC sees as the grossly irresponsible U.S. federal budget and foreign trade deficits. These, they fear, if uncorrected, will push the Western world as a whole into an eventual new economic recession.

Most serious of all is the growing gap between the U.S. and its NATO allies over strategy in the

nuclear arms reduction talks between the U.S. and the Soviet Union. Although they are for the most part ruled by night of centre governments, the West Europeans are angered and fearful of President Reagan's apparent determination to press ahead with "Star Wars" development even if this scuppers the anti-ballistic missile treaty and hopes of a breakthrough in the Geneva arms talks. Linked with these frictions are differences over foreign policy issues, above all strategy in Central America and the Middle East. The Europeans were appalled at the Iranagate affair, and have fallen out with Washington very sharply over support for the Nicaraguan contras.

[There are] differences over strategy in Central America and the Middle East.

As far as the Middle East is concerned, European Community governments fear that the virtual political implosion of the Reagan administration will paralyse the U.S. from playing a constructive role in reviving the peace process. This, they believe, will only weaken the West's allies among the moderate Arab regimes the longer it continues. On the other hand, the Europeans are cynical about how evenhanded any U.S. administration will be, given the power of the pro-Israeli lobby. For this reason they are now willing to give a public push towards the international peace confer-

ence in the belief that, at least, the U.S. will not veto the initiative. Of course differences remain over just what such a conference would be empowered to do. It is not clear how much separates the views of the EEC and the Soviet government, although the Europeans are increasingly impressed with what they see as Mr. Gorbachev's constructive stance on foreign policy as well as his liberalising internal initiatives.

The crunch between the Europeans and their American allies may arise if the U.S. moves to reduce some of the 325,000 troops it keeps stationed in Western Europe. European public opinion is increasingly favourable to the closure of U.S. nuclear bases and the withdrawal of nuclear missiles. But a troop pullout would face the Europeans with the embarrassing choice between scaling down NATO's goals and trying to find the money and manpower to replace the Americans.

The worse the U.S. budgetary crisis the more likely a future Democratic administration will be to save money on America's overseas commitments. This is already reflected in American pressure on the Nakaseko government to step up Japan's defence spending. What remains to be seen is whether a full scale crisis with the U.S. will result in the Europeans underlining or retreating from their first tentative steps towards greater political

autonomy from Washington. This is the point at which differences among the 12 EEC states and more generally among the European NATO governments may become critical. A majority of European NATO states appear to have lost all confidence that they can really influence the Reagan administration and therefore the EEC has no reason to play down its own policies and interests.

A majority of NATO states have lost all confidence that they can really influence the Reagan administration.

For her part Mrs. Thatcher still puts overriding priority on maintaining close and loyal relations with the Reagan administration. What may be most significant in the longer run, however, are the signs that the normally very pro-U.S. Atlanticist West German government is losing patience with Washington. Strengthened by the results of the West German elections, the foreign minister, Mr. Hans Dietrich Genscher, is determined to improve relations with the Soviet bloc, both for economic and political reasons. If the West Germans now throw their weight behind greater European independence in foreign policy and defence matters the EEC can hardly avoid the breach with the U.S. becoming wider still — Middle East International, London.

Black miners' union demands end to migrant labour system

By David Crary
The Associated Press

JOHANNESBURG — The main black miners' union has issued the most sweeping demand of its five-year history — an end to the migrant labour system on which South Africa's mining industry depends.

Under the system, miners are recruited from neighbouring countries and distant black homelands to live away from their families in single-sex mine hostels for at least 11 months each year.

The National Union of Mineworkers, which claims to represent 360,000 of the country's 600,000 black miners, demanded early this month that mine owners pledge by March 30 to negotiate an end to the migrant system and provide family housing for all miners that want it. Without such a pledge, the NUM said, the miners will prepare for a national strike.

The ultimatum, accompanied by a demand for a 55 per cent wage increase, indicated the union's growing confidence in its bargaining power with an industry that generates about 15 per cent of South Africa's gross domestic product and 60 per cent of its export earnings.

"It has taken us five years to build an effective mass base — a power base with which we can mount an assault on the commanding heights of the mining industry," said Marcel Golding, the NUM's assistant general secretary.

Golding said the union also wants an interim arrangement in which elected worker representatives are given control of the hostels.

The Chamber of Mines, which collectively represents the mine owners, has not responded publicly to the demands. Spokesmen for individual companies suggest that the changes sought by the NUM could be accomplished only at immense cost and over many years.

"It would put quite a number of mines out of business," said Attie Roets, spokesman for one of the biggest companies, gold fields.

Roets said gold fields' mines, "within their respective financial restraints, will continue the expansion of accommodation for married employees. We will try to meet the demand as far as we can."

Golding stressed that the union is not willing to wait very long. "We're not talking about the next 10 to 15 years," he said. "We're talking about the next few years."

Acceptance of the NUM's demand would raise the possibility of hundreds of thousands of miners' dependents seeking to move near mines in areas where the government, as part of its apartheid system of racial separation, has struggled to limit the number of blacks.

In 1985, the most recent year for which statistics are available, migrant workers from outside

South Africa constituted about 40 per cent of the 511,000 black gold and coal miners — 107,000 from Lesotho, 51,000 from Mozambique, 18,000 from Botswana, 17,000 from Malawi and 13,000 from Swaziland. One of the Lesotho migrants who lives in a hostel is the NUM's president, James Motlatsi.

The vast majority of the miners from South Africa live migrant lives, far away from their families. About 150,000 of them come to mines in the northern half of the country from the nominally independent homelands of Transkei and Ciskei.

Fewer than 5 per cent of all the black miners live at the mines with their families, and there is a web of legislation preventing most migrants' dependents from entering South Africa either from the homelands or abroad.

The migrant system began almost as soon as gold was discovered a century ago in the then underpopulated area around present-day Johannesburg.

In defending the system, industry officials cite the important role the migrants play in providing foreign exchange to their economically troubled home countries, supporting an estimated one million dependents with earnings totalling \$500 million annually. Their average pay of roughly 400 rand (\$200) a month is three or four times what many workers in South Africa's neighbouring countries earn.

Golding said the NUM had no desire to reduce the number of foreign miners rather, it wanted the owners to offer family housing to those seeking it.

But there are doubts within the industry as to whether the government, which in the past has threatened to expel foreign workers, would allow alien dependents into South Africa. And one Chamber of Mines official, speaking on condition he not be identified, said many migrants would not want their families to accompany them.

"Some have farms at home and would worry about who would look after them," he said. "Some just want to mine for a few years and make some money to go home and buy land or a tractor."

Gold fields' Roets said mine owners face a continuing problem trying to recruit urban South African blacks from townships relatively near the mines.

Traditionally, mine hostels have been segregated by tribe or nationality, and the NUM has blamed such divisions for factional fighting that claimed more than 130 lives last year. The owners have questioned this conclusion and say miners have resisted occasional attempts to create ethnically mixed hostels.

However, the nation's biggest mining conglomerate, Anglo American, has opened an investigation into the causes of the factional fighting. Anglo also has acknowledged drawbacks in the migrant labour system and endorsed the general goal of providing miners with family housing.

Election pits Gandhi against Communists

By Dilip Ganguly
The Associated Press

NEW DELHI, India — Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi faces a test of his popularity halfway through his term in state elections next week that pit his Congress Party against Communist opposition.

In the March 23 balloting, the Congress Party will try to keep control of the state assembly in Kerala and challenge Communist rule in West Bengal legislature. Marxist parties have traditionally been strong in both states.

Congress has formed a coalition with a Muslim party in the Muslim-majority northern state of Kashmir in a third election. Fifty-five million people are registered to vote in the three states.

Congress has lost in three earlier state elections since Gandhi came to power in 1984. But the party maintains this was by design: In an effort to quiet violent disputes in the three states, Gandhi made peace pacts with regional powers and Congress conceded the legislative majority.

Next week's vote, therefore, is the first real test for Gandhi's party since 1984. Romesh Thapar, a leading political analyst, said in an interview the results will serve as judgment for Gandhi as party leader.

"For Congressmen, the election is important not because of who wins, but it will be a test for Gandhi as a vote-catcher," he said. "Gandhi's image as a leader has gone down, there is resentment in his party and if he fails to project himself as the vote-catcher, the boy is in serious trouble."

Gandhi faces no immediate national challenge. Federal elections to five-year parliament terms are not due until 1989, and no single opposition leader can match Gandhi in stature.

But a Congress official, who spoke on condition of not being identified, said continued losses in state elections "could cause morale problems for the party and Gandhi."

Thapar also said the Congress Party's power has always rested on its leader's popularity. "The Congress won past elections not because it has any better policy, but because it always had charismatic leaders and there was no solid united opposition," he said.

Gandhi's mother, Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, was immensely popular, as was his grandfather, Jawaharlal Nehru, the country's first prime minister.

The present leader, a 42-year-old former pilot, came to power

in December 1984 in the largest vote the Congress Party ever received. The election was held amid an outpouring of emotion at the slaying of his mother two months earlier, but Rajiv Gandhi also came off as a young, active man ready to battle India's ills.

Since then, however, he has faced growing criticism from newspapers, opposition politicians and even a few in his own party. Some complaints by Congressmen have focused on election losses.

Of the 24 Indian states, opposition parties control state assemblies in eight. More than 30 per cent of India's 780 million population live in those states.

Congress lost elections in Punjab, Assam and Mizoram states, where Gandhi negotiated peace pacts in an effort to quiet simmering independence movements.

As part of those pacts, Gandhi conceded a degree of independence, and Congress did not go all out to win a legislative majority. Nawal Kishore Sharma, a general secretary of the Congress Party, said the moves held India together.

"This is the price we paid in the interest of the country," he said. "The three upcoming elections have their share of religious or ethnic significance. In Kashmir,

the Muslim religion is a factor. In West Bengal, Nepalese-origin Gurkhas in the north want their own separate Indian state. Gurkha nationalists are boycotting the polls, charging Marxists have bought the vote."

But most observers view the West Bengal and Kerala elections as battles between Gandhi's Congress Party and the Communists.

West Bengal, whose capital is crowded Calcutta, has been under Communist control since 1977. A Communist-led front has 238 members in the 294-seat house. Congress has 51 members.

Kerala had the world's first elected Communist government in 1957, and Communists have ruled on and off since. They lost the last elections, in 1982, to a Congress-led coalition that holds 77 seats against 63 for the left Democratic Front in the 140-member Kerala assembly.

Gandhi has made repeated trips to the two states and criticised the Communists, calling them anarchists.

Congress has made no predictions on the outcome. But Prakash Karat, a member of the Marxist Communist Party's central committee, said the Communist-led front would win in West Bengal and had a very good chance in Kerala.

Pragmatic policies make new Tanzanian president popular

By Robert Powell
Reuters

DAR ES SALAAM — Tanzanian President Ali Hassan Mwinyi has emerged from the long shadow of his predecessor Julius Nyerere to become a popular and effective leader in his own right.

His economic recovery programme has drifted away from Nyerere's socialist principles, but has attracted massive support from western donors and approval at home.

He is turning out to be stronger than anyone could possibly have hoped for," one European diplomat said.

Since Mwinyi came to power 18 months ago, consumer goods have reappeared in the shops, potholed roads and rusting railways are being repaired and imported trucks, fertiliser, pesticides and spare parts are once more available.

Farmers are being paid higher prices for their crops and private enterprise enjoys a bigger role in the economy, long dominated by inefficient parastatal companies.

Local analysts say most people have welcomed Mwinyi's new approach to the economy after years of decline under Nyerere.

During the late 1970s and early 1980s, the rhetoric of Nyerere's Socialism was more in evidence than its achievements.

"Any policy that alleviates poverty I would accept as Socialism," said Jeannette Hartman, a lecturer in political sociology at Dar Es Salaam University, reflecting the new mood of pragmatism in government.

Nyerere has moderated Mwinyi's reforming zeal by retaining the chairmanship of the ruling Chama Cha Mapinduzi

(Revolutionary Party), after retiring as president in November 1985.

From his powerful if low-profile party position, Nyerere remains a strong influence over the country which he led to independence in 1961 and ruled continuously for 24 years.

A crucial question for Mwinyi's government is whether Nyerere will retire completely by relinquishing the CCM chairmanship at the party's national conference in October.

Nyerere has said publicly he would retire to allow Mwinyi to take over the party leadership but last month he told the CCM newspaper Ujamaa that he might stay on as CCM chairman if he received a popular mandate.

There have recently been signs that Nyerere is trying to slow down Mwinyi's move away from his own doctrine of Socialism and self reliance, expressed in the 1967 Arusha declaration.

On Feb. 5, Nyerere made a speech strongly defending the Arusha declaration and roundly condemning the International Monetary Fund (IMF), with which Mwinyi signed an 18-month stand-by agreement last August.

The IMF agreement is the linchpin of Mwinyi's economic recovery programme, since it underwrites \$800 million of fresh aid in current 1986/87 financial year and a major rescheduling of Tanzania's \$3.2 billion external debt.

Nyerere posed an even clearer challenge to Mwinyi at the end of February, when the national executive committee of the CCM, under his leadership, called for an end to devaluation at the same time as a visiting IMF mission was complaining privately to the gov-

ernment that devaluation was not going fast enough.

Diplomats and local analysts say Nyerere would deal a crushing blow to Mwinyi's government if he stayed on for a further term as CCM chairman to snipe at his policies. "It would be like slapping Mwinyi in the face," one western diplomat said.

The government of the autonomous island of Zanzibar, which joined Tanganyika in 1964 to form the Republic of Tanzania, opposed a further term for Nyerere, official Zanzibar sources said.

Zanzibar, which has liberalised its economy much faster than the mainland, might secede from their fragile union if Nyerere insists on staying, they added.

The island of 600,000 people is self-governing and manages its own foreign exchange income, but it has fallen on hard times

owing to low world prices for cloves, its main export.

Zanzibar complains that it receives virtually none of the foreign aid pouring into Tanzania and the island government has begun looking at new sources of income, such as tourism, shipping and offshore banking.

Zanzibar was part of the empire of Oman until the mid-19th century.

Sultan Qaboos Bin Said of Oman has offered to build Zanzibar a \$40 million international airport, the sources noted.

Mwinyi, 62, is a mainland who grew up and made his political career in Zanzibar before becoming president of Tanzania, and the sources said his leadership constitutes a strong bond holding together Zanzibar and the mainland together, despite the current wave of separatist rumblings.

LETTERS

Misleading

To the Editor:

On one hand I wish to extend my thanks to you and the Jordan Times for your interest in important medical problems and achievements. On the other hand, however I have to comment on the article "Taking a 450-kilometre walk for charity" in the Jordan Times issue of March 10.

You are quoting my colleague Dr. Khoury as saying "nerve diseases... have not received enough attention in Jordan." And this is followed by "...to bring specialists to treat and train local doctors..."

This sequence must give the impression that Jordan was lacking all what is needed to treat such patients. This is not only absolutely wrong but unfair and misleading.

Dr. S. Salah
Neurosurgeon
Amman.

سكينة الجليل

Joint exhibition indicates progress, adventure in local art movement

By Meg Abu Hamdan
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The Jordan Artist's Association continues its season at its new premises with an exhibition of work by association members. Like that of the Young Jordanian Painters held at the Royal Cultural Centre some three weeks ago, this is an interesting and enjoyable collection with some good work from both established and new names alike. Although some of the pieces have been exhibited before, the generally high standard of the submitted works is gratifying as it is an indication of just how far the art movement in Jordan has come in the last few years.

The highlights of the show for many will be the two almost classical pieces in their field. Nabil Shahadeh's cut away abstract suspended between two sheets of perspex has a strange trompe l'oeil effect for, although you feel the painting is "broken," the point on the perspex itself suggests a continuity between the two surfaces. This format is new for Shahadeh but the actual abstract is very much what we have come to expect from this artist — strong dark colours applied in bold sweeps, balanced and counter balanced to perfection, to produce a unique tightness and unity within the painting. Yet, despite the control and the almost mathematical precision with which Shahadeh applies his colours, there is a spontaneity, a free flowing movement that hints at deep, sad but volatile emotions struggling to emerge.

The other piece is Kuram Nimri's head of the artist Azziz Ammoura. Molded in plaster and painted matt black, this larger-than-life portrait is exceptionally daring and strong. The bold symmetrical features which are a union of the formal with the realistic are enhanced by a luxuriant head of hair, whose exaggerated volume and wend the piece a surprising sensuousness. Relaying the personality of the sitter with perception and sympathy, Nimri has created a piece of art that pots one in mind of the so-called "reserve heads" that



Bold, blocky painting by Mohammad Al Jalous

were often placed, the reason is not known, outside ancient Egyptian burial chambers.

From Azziz Ammoura himself comes an attractive and unassuming piece of some presence. Executed in the now familiar stippling technique Ammoura has adopted, the flowing calligraphy is enhanced by different texturing and shading effects that fill and frame the piece.

Other good work from more established artists comes from Jalal Arafat — impressionistic landscapes in greeny blues — from Diana Shamouni — a clever depiction of a crowd reduced to pink faces and single colour clothes, which effectively uses composition and the repetition of form to give the scene its dynamism and from Abdul Raouf Shamoun. Shamoun's work, at first, seems totally abstract but gradually, from within the bold strokes of bright colour, a group of figures emerge, moving diagonally across the beige painted canvas. With their heads wrapped and their backs turned

towards the viewer, they press forward, the mass of the figures broken up by hastily zigzagging lines that denote so economically the fold of the cloth and light and shade.

The work of two recent graduates is also notable. Munza Hamareh, fresh back from his studies at the Damascus

Jamal Ashur — the other new name — has submitted a Klee-like print in two colours, terracotta and black. Full of tiny, wolly squiggles, minuscule grids, spidery drawings of figures, leaves, huddling flasks and hidden faces, these prints swarm with graphic inventions, like the squirming micro-organisms seen beneath high resolution microscope, all framed by a textured edge.

Not such a new graduate, but still a relatively new artist is Mohammad Jalous who studied at the Jordan Institute of Fine Arts. Jalous' blocky, abstracts are pleasingly bold, his vibrant blacks, burnt oranges, greens and deep blues seem to emerge from beneath energetic strokes of thick white paint that threatens to cover all.

Completing the exhibition — along with Ahmad Nawash's familiar but still striking oils, Rafik Lahham's prints and Mahmood Taha's subtly painted tiles — are some more good pieces by Ali Ghoul.

ART REVIEW

Academy for Fine Art, has produced a well-drawn and rendered painting of three Syrian men selling their vegetables in a street market. Squatting over their baskets of lettuce and radishes, they form a classic grouping that is set off by the diagonal of the street barrow behind them. Hamareh has yet to find his own style, but the beginnings of something interesting can be seen in his mixture of bold swirls of colour with finely painted details as seen in the faces and hands of his subjects.

Experts seek cause of Cameroun lake disaster

By Claude Regier
Reuter

YAOUNDE — International scientists are meeting in Yaounde this week to try to determine the cause of the disaster seven months ago when 1,700 people were killed by toxic gas from a remote lake in northwestern Cameroun.

Scientists are still not sure if such a disaster could happen again and, if it could, whether they could warn people soon enough to save their lives.

Close to 100 experts from Asia, North and South America, Europe, Asia, Africa, Australia and New Zealand will exchange their findings on the Lake Nyos disaster in an effort to decide what happened and what can be done about it.

Lengthy on-the-spot investigations by experts from all over the world have produced no conclusive evidence so far on why, late

in the evening of August 21 last year, toxic gases including carbon dioxide bubbled up from the volcanic lake, 400 km northwest of Yaounde, killing 1,734 people.

In a six-day conference sponsored by UNESCO and other international organisations the scientists will defend their conflicting theories.

All agree that Lake Nyos exploded like a shaken bottle of champagne, releasing 1.3 billion cubic yards of carbon dioxide which poured silently through valleys, killing people and animals up to six miles away before dissipating.

But U.S. and French scientists differ on what caused the explosion and on the key question of whether it was volcanic.

At a meeting of volcanologists in January in Hawaii, the Americans maintained that the gas was not thrust out violently, but had saturated the water after escaping gradually from the bottom of the

lake. Then, according to Camerounian expert Felix Tchoua, who agrees with the main points of the U.S. theory, some external factor, such as huge rocks falling into the lake, could have caused the gas to be released.

French scientists on the other hand believe that a volcanic vent cap below the 680-foot deep lake was blown off by the pressure of the gas which then burst to the surface.

If this is what happened, similar tragedies can strike elsewhere without warning, they say.

French volcanologist Haroun Tazieff, who has studied the Lake Nyos disaster and will be at the meeting, has warned that similar explosions could occur in dormant volcanic lakes in central France, Italy and the United States.

There are about 40 volcanic lakes similar to Nyos in northwest Cameroun and if Tazieff's theory is correct no warning signals can help prevent future disasters.

Two years before the Nyos disaster, a lake at nearby Monoun exploded, killing 37 people.

A similar disaster was reported at Lake Dieng, Indonesia, in 1979, and other incidents this century have included a 1903 report of 17 deaths on the Indian Ocean island of Karthala and 16 deaths near the Colombian volcano of Turace in 1949.

But Tchoua, a professor at Yaounde University, says it is now established that toxic gases accumulate over long periods.

He told the Cameroun Tribune newspaper it was possible to monitor these accumulations and siphon off the deadly gases from Nyos and other potential disaster areas.

Tchoua and other Camerounian scientists have proposed setting up a national centre for the study of natural risks which, among other things, would monitor crater lakes.

About 10,000 survivors living in refugee camps want to go home to their once prosperous lakeshore villages.

But the scientists will have to answer two questions first — is the area fit for habitation and if so, what are the risks of another lake explosion.

Appendicitis at 100

One hundred years ago, a Boston doctor of medicine, Reginald Fitz, identified appendicitis, named it, showed how to diagnose it and prescribed an operation that would save tens of millions of lives. The authors describe Dr. Fitz's discovery.

By Stewart M. Brooks and Natalie A. Brooks

ON Sunday, January 17, 1886, a twenty-four-year-old Boston woman experienced searing, excruciating pain in her right lower abdomen. Her doctor prescribed applications of moist heat to her abdomen, an enema of warm water, and a dose of morphine, all to be repeated "as needed." Two days later the pain had subsided, but by afternoon it returned, this time affecting the entire abdomen. The doctor increased the dosage of morphine, and the pain again let up. Over the next two days the woman's pulse ranged between 88 and 96, and her temperature hovered between 99 and 100 degrees. On Thursday she was given castor oil and began to vomit. Vomiting continued the next day and her abdomen swelled. Her doctor — and two consultants who had been called in — now administered citrate of magnesia, calomel, and jalap — all purgatives — and an enema. On Saturday morning her pulse of 140 became almost imperceptible; her abdominal swelling increased, and her extremities went cold. Violent vomiting began again, and she died at 12:30 p.m.

This woman's case appeared in the *Boston Medical and Surgical Journal* in 1886. As it happened, there also appeared in the very same issue an extract of a study done by a Dr. Reginald Fitz of Boston — a study that solved the riddle of appendicitis for once and for all. Deaths like the one described above, until then a common occurrence, would begin to become a rarity. In his landmark paper, Fitz not only defined the nature of the disease but also described its proper diagnosis and treatment. Today, three hundred thousand and potentially life-saving appendectomies are performed each year in America, and Fitz's work a century ago paved the way.

The appendix and its inflammation took thousands of years to be understood. Coptic jars, in which Egyptian mummies' intestines were placed, sometimes carried an inscription referring to the "worm of the bowel," but no definitive description of the organ existed until 1492, when Leonardo da Vinci described and drew it. In 1710 the Flemish anatomist Philippe Verheyen gave the organ its name, *appendix vermiformis*. Most of us, of course, simply say *appendix*.

The appendix is a sort of worm-like finger that protrudes from the cecum, the portion of the large intestine located in the right lower abdomen. It usually runs three or four inches in length, but may exceed ten or more, and has a diameter of about one-third of an inch. A narrow passageway, the lumen, extends down the inside of the appendix beginning at the opening to the cecum, where there is a fold of mucous membrane called Gerlach's valve. What purpose this equipment may once have served is unknown. Most consider the entire structure vestigial, but it may once have aided in the digestion of cellulose.

Trouble arises when an obstruction at or near Gerlach's valve inhibits the flow of appendiceal mucus out into the cecum. Pressure inside the lumen then becomes elevated, squeezing the appendix walls and the blood

vessels therein. Thus distressed, the appendix can fall prey to the myriad luminal bacteria, the result being inflammation — appendicitis. Without treatment the inflammation typically leads to gangrene and perforation and the escape of lethal fecal material into the abdominal cavity. The result is peritonitis and sometimes death. The obstruction may be caused by foreign bodies, such as bones, seeds, pits, pins, screws, tacks, teeth, parasites and even hubble gum, but perhaps the most common culprits are swollen appendiceal lymph tissue and fecaliths — hardened feces. Normally feces are held at bay by Gerlach's valve, but when they do enter the appendix they dry up and therefore cannot escape.

The disease began to be pinpointed in the early nineteenth century. In 1812 the British doctor James Parkinson reported that a five-year-old boy had died of a diseased appendix following two days of illness. In 1813 a German pathologist named Wegeler reported a case in which "the cecum was destroyed by gangrene, having its starting point in the vermiform appendix, in which organ were several stones." In 1839 the English physicians Thomas Addison and Richard Bright wrote, "From numerous dissections it proved that the fecal abscess thus formed in the lower right side arises, in a large majority of cases, from the disease set up in the appendix." The first surgery involving a diseased appendix was performed by the English surgeon Henry Hancock in 1848, and in 1884, Rudolf Krouleim of Zurich "cut off in toto" the appendix of a stricken seventeen-year-old boy. The boy died, but his case was apparently the first in which the disease was diagnosed and the organ then removed.

The first reported clear case in the United States of what we now call appendicitis occurred in 1815. A forty-year-old sea captain named Parker Robert was stricken by an "obstinate, deep seated pain in the right side of the abdomen," according to his doctor, Oliver Prescott. Prescott perceived that the trouble was in the cecum and prescribed a brew of calomel, aloes, senna, gambier, niter, potassium subcarbonate, opium, and hyoscyamus. Within five days the captain died. An autopsy disclosed a cocoon hean at the entrance to his appendix, and Prescott recognised this as "unquestionably the immediate cause of our patient's death."

Though Prescott was clearly in the dangerous dark ages relative to the management of the captain's disease, he knew no less than the physicians who treated the woman in Boston seventy-one years later. There were intervening sparks of enlightenment, but they all failed to throw permanent light on the problem until Reginald Fitz came along.

Reginald Heber Fitz was born on May 5, 1843, in Chelsea, Massachusetts. After receiving his M.D. from Harvard in 1868, he studied for two years, first in Vienna and then in Germany under Rudolf Virchow, generally regarded as the father of pathology. Returning to Boston in 1870, Fitz received appointments as a microscopist at the Massachusetts General Hospital and as an in-

structor in pathological anatomy at Harvard Medical School. He rose quickly at Harvard, becoming assistant professor in 1873 and Shattuck Professor of Pathological Anatomy in 1879.

A student recollected, "His lectures were terse, vigorous, lucid and models of flawless didactic exposition, and in clinical exercises his cross-examination method and keen forensic style were as illuminating as they were stimulating...." According to a colleague, Fitz was "not an investigator in the sense that he carried out or led original, experimental research," yet his "penetrating clearness of vision... enabled him to extract, as could no one else, from a mass of apparently unrelated observations, the concise, clear clinical picture."

Fitz's pathbreaking paper, entitled "Perforating Inflammation of the Vermiform Appendix: With Special Reference to Its Early Diagnosis and Treatment," was read before the Association of American Physicians, June 18, 1886, and was published in the *American Journal of the Medical Sciences* the following October. It contained a meticulous point-by-point analysis of 466 cases of abdominal disorders that had previously been variously diagnosed and showed that they all involved a diseased appendix. Moreover, Fitz demonstrated that the disease always started at the appendix. He wrote that "variations in length, position and patency [of the appendix], whether congenital or acquired, are of obvious importance in explaining many of the apparent differences in the clinical histories." Being an astute clinician, Fitz went on to set forth simple and effective methods both of diagnosis and of treatment, and he concluded his monumental study with three fundamental statements: the early recognition of appendicitis is of vital importance; its diagnosis is usually not difficult; and its treatment by appendectomy is generally indispensable.

Another truly important thing Fitz did in his paper was to introduce the term *appendicitis*. Some two dozen names had previously been used for what had been thought to be a variety of diseases. The new, single name would help eliminate this confusion. Some years later he commented, "The word was coined by me purely for practical purposes. I wished to call attention to inflammation of the vermiform appendix as... that to which treatment was directly to be applied.... The subject is now so well understood that its nomenclature seems of minor importance... [but] I much prefer *appendicitis* to Fitz's disease."

Many considered *appendicitis* a clumsy or "barbarous" word, and some suggested substitutes, such as *apophysitis* and *soecoloiditis*. Not a few physicians, especially in remote areas of the country, began to believe there were now two distinct diseases that afflicted the right iliac fossa — typhilitis (a prevalent older term) and appendicitis. For a number of years to come, typhilitis, perityphilitis, and even "stoppage of the bowels" would continue to be used alongside *appendicitis*.

Nevertheless, 1886 remained the year of conquest — the "year of appendicitis." As Howard Kelly, a surgeon and member of the first medical faculty at Johns Hopkins, aptly put it, "Now everything was to be changed and as a tangled skein full of knots and

false clues yields at once to the hand which holds the right thread, so the perplexities, obstacles, and unfounded notions which hitherto blocked the way, disappeared as soon as Fitz' paper supplied and enforced the acceptance of the correct fundamental fact — that the multifarious abdominal disorders hitherto variously named were all no more than forms and stages of inflammation of the appendix."

To some extent this classic paper was a reaffirmation of the views of many earlier investigators, some of whom were as perspicacious and articulate as Fitz. However, by 1886 the time was ripe for the medical profession to focus on appendicitis and to develop the operation to combat it. And Fitz was the right man to spark the change. He was a pathologist, not a surgeon, and thus could command respect in both of these then sometimes uncooperative fields.

Who did the first appendectomy? As noted earlier, Rudolf Krouleim performed one in 1884, but the patient died. In 1886, Richard Hall, a New York surgeon, removed an appendix and the patient lived. But Hall had diagnosed the case as "strangulated hernia." In 1887, Thomas Morton, a prominent Philadelphia surgeon, became the unchallenged first to deliberately and successfully operate for and remove an inflamed ruptured appendix after having made the correct diagnosis. Less than a year later, he was the first to diagnose and remove an inflamed appendix that had not yet ruptured. His interest in the operation may have been more than clinical. His brother and son both died of appendicitis.

Morton's accomplishments initiated a period of quickened interest in Fitz's revelations, and scores of skilled and famous surgeons now began making major contributions. In 1889 Charles McBurney, a New York surgeon, published a paper in which he pinpointed the tenderness, a pain associated with appendicitis at a point one and a half to two inches from the umbilicus, and the right hip in the direction of the navel, John Deaver, a turn-of-the-century pioneer in abdominal surgery, considered this the greatest of all advances in the diagnosis of appendicitis, "not so much because the pain is in every case just at the spot, because it put into the physicians' and surgeons' thoughts, in a practical concrete way, a ready method of excluding nearly every other disease with almost certainty."

The value of swift action was confirmed by the experience of a surgeon named John Murphy. By 1894 he had performed 108 operations with a loss of 10 lives, an astonishing success rate, considering that the majority of the cases had not been seen until rupture. The secret to preventing infection, as Murphy put it, was, "get in quick and get out quicker."

Further advances included discovery of the salutary effect of raising the head of the peritonitis patient's head eighteen inches or so, to facilitate the gravitational flow of fluids in the least dangerous direction; withholding all food before operating to keep the intestines inactive; and avoidance of laxatives and cathartics. For all intents and purposes, basic surgical procedures had all been established by the early years of the twentieth century.

— The American Heritage Press.

Fatalistic Thais resist Bangkok flood scheme

By Mark Fisher
Reuter

BANGKOK — A multi-million dollar flood-prevention scheme in Bangkok has drawn a lukewarm response from fatalistic residents of the Thai capital.

A Thai-Australian joint venture company wants to dig a new 55-km channel west of the city to relieve pressure on the capital's Chao Phraya River, which regularly bursts its banks.

At 20 million baht (\$770 million), this would be one of the biggest drainage schemes in Asia, Thai officials believe.

But Bangkok residents seem apathetic to the proposal even though flooding causes widespread disruption in the city and the problem shows every sign of worsening.

"We've always had floods. We always will. There's no sense messing about with the river," grumbled a vegetable seller near Bangkok's royal palace. The comment was typical.

Other critics fear the scheme could destroy the charm of the Chao Phraya, which winds languidly past sumptuous Buddhist temples and the elegant Oriental Hotel. The river is also home to colourful floating markets, a major tourist attraction.

Thais outside Bangkok also wonder why so much money should be spent on the capital, where the standard of living is far higher than in the provinces. From May to October, the

Chao Phraya carries monsoon floodwaters down to the capital from the north. It also has to cope with Bangkok's high local rainfall and with tidal surges from the Gulf of Thailand, 30 km to the south.

If that is not enough, Bangkok is also sinking, in some places at the rate of 12 cm a year. Parts of the capital are already below sea level.

A Department of Resources official told Reuters the subsidence was caused because the pumping of drinking water supplies from wells dug below the city has lowered the water table.

The government had tried to limit well supplies, she said, but added it was unclear whether this would slow the subsidence rate.

To limit flood damage, major roads in the capital have already been raised and the city has an extensive network of canals, dykes and pumping stations.

These costly efforts enjoy little success. Homes and shops in entire districts are regularly inundated and roads are cut for days.

"By the end of this century 300 square km of Bangkok could be under water," city council engineer Kamsan Suwanarat told Reuters. "There could be a catastrophe."

"People don't understand," he added. "There's no sense of urgency to stop it happening."

The Chao Phraya flows slowly but Thai bureaucracy is slower, said a long-time Western resident.

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Brazilian star Socrates says he wants to quit

RIO DE JANEIRO (R) — Brazilian 1982 World Cup captain Socrates wants to end his contract with club Flamengo and quit soccer, a club official said.

Socrates, 33, joined Flamengo in September 1985, after a colourless season in Italy, where he never won the full backing of Fiorentina players and fans. Even though his contract with Flamengo expires in September, Socrates expressed a wish to quit the game immediately, the official said.

Socrates, who declined to talk to reporters, had spoken to Club President Mario Braga who was trying to persuade him to reconsider, the official said. A qualified doctor, Socrates said recently he would quit at the

end of his contract but has apparently decided to quit immediately because of team manager Sebastiao Lazaroni's decision to keep him on the bench while fielding little known midfielder Ailton instead.

Socrates has been sidelined on and off since joining Flamengo for a number of injuries and medical problems including a broken foot, which had him out of action for several months and a hernia operation, which kept him away from the game for three months.

This year coach Lazaroni kept him on the bench, claiming that the famous player was out of his best physical and technical form. "Name and fame do not win matches," Lazaroni told reporters in explaining his decision.

Platini among players to go on trial in France

LYON, France (R) — French soccer star Michel Platini is to go on trial in connection with an alleged slush fund, along with former players and officials from his old club, legal sources said Tuesday.

A Lyon court rejected an appeal by the local public prosecutor not to try 11 players and nine officials for their alleged part in a 20-million franc (\$3.3 million) slush fund scandal between 1978 and 1982.

The players, who include World Cup defender Patrick Battiston and former internationals Bernard Lacombe and Jean-Francois Larios, were first charged three years ago with accepting illegal payments from First Division French club Saint Etienne.

The footballers were accused of accepting secret cash payments from the slush fund in order to avoid paying income tax. The money allegedly came from ticket sales omitted from the club's official accounts.

The public prosecutor argued that the players did not know the money came from a fraudulent source and that they had subsequently sorted out their positions with the income tax authorities. But the court ruled that they could not have been unaware of the illegality of the dealings.

"Helped by advisers for the financial, commercial and sporting organisation of their career, the players could not ignore the illegal aspects of the slush fund's money," the court said.

No date has been set for the trial, but the sources said it was likely to be held before July. Platini, 31, was Saint-Etienne captain between 1978 and 1982, before moving to Italy where he has been with Juventus of Turin ever since.

Other defendants include former Club Chairman Roger Rocher, former coach Robert Herbin and former Argentine international Oswaldo Piazza.

India faces dilemma over Davis Cup tie with Israel

NEW DELHI, India (AP) — India may face a \$10,000 fine and suspension from Davis Cup tennis play if it follows its usual policy and refuses to face Israel in the quarter-finals scheduled in July.

An official of India's Sports Ministry said Tuesday that government officials are weighing what to do about the conflict between India's policy and its players' weekend victory over Argentina.

India has no diplomatic relations with Israel and usually does not enter into sports competitions with it. But India's victory and Israel's win over Czechoslovakia leave the two teams scheduled to face each other.

Both teams won upset victories by a 3-2 margin. The Sports Ministry official, who spoke on condition he not be

identified, said the matter will be decided at the "highest level." Under Davis Cup rules, failure to participate in a scheduled match results in a \$10,000 fine and expulsion from play for three years.

India faced a similar problem last September at the Asian Junior Tennis Championship in Bangkok, Thailand, when it found itself facing Israel. The Indian team withdrew.

Last month Israel did not play in World Table Tennis Championships here after reports India would refuse visas to Israeli players.

The India-Israel match, by Davis Cup scheduling, also should be played in New Delhi. But the Israeli Tennis Association said in Tel Aviv its team would play India on neutral territory if players are denied visas.

France's Longo takes lead in Colombia cycling

BOGOTA (R) — Jeannie Longo of France, arguably the world's top female cyclist, triumphantly began what experts have called the best public relations operation yet for female cycling in Colombia.

Longo, the road world champion and world record-holder for the one hour against the clock track event, won the first stage of the inaugural tour of Colombia women's cycling race.

She outsprinted Italy's Imelda Chiappa to clock one hour 32 minutes 03 seconds for a 60-kilometre circuit in the southwestern city of Cali, on Monday according to unofficial results.

Longo's traditional rival, Italy's Maria Canins, twice winner of the Tour De France Classic, did not make the trip to Colombia as originally scheduled because of an injury.

The eight-day race, which also includes cyclists from China, France, and the United States, covers 524 kilometres ending next Monday in the capital Bogota.

Dutch coach sacked over player's switch

EINDHOVEN (R) — Dutch club PSV Eindhoven has sacked coach Hans Kraay amid the continuing row surrounding Rudd Gullit's controversial move to AC Milan.

Gullit, the outstanding player in Dutch football, wants to join AC even though he is under contract until 1990. PSV opposes the move and the Dutch football association (KNVB) will decide later this month whether to allow Gullit to go to Milan.

The flamboyant Gullit told Nieuwe Revu magazine last week he had reached an agreement with the Italians and criticised PSV.

Kraay wanted to suspend Gullit from the PSV first team for the rest of the season as punishment for the remarks but manager Kees Ploegsma favoured a final warning.

European Cup preview

Belgrade on survival mission in Spain

LONDON (R) — Red Star Belgrade, Yugoslavia's most battle-hardened European campaigner, sets out today to survive where many fine teams have perished — in the seething cauldron of Real Madrid's Santiago Bernabeu Stadium.

The Yugoslav champion, seeking to emulate its city rival Partizan by reaching a Champions' Cup final, leads the Spaniards 4-2 but knows its participation in the top quarter-final, second leg tie of the night could end in tears.

Madrid has a formidable home record in European soccer and its majestic stadium has been the graveyard of many teams defending similar or better leads.

Last season, on its way to a second successive triumph in the UEFA Cup, Madrid overcame a 3-0 deficit by hammering Internazionale Milan 5-1 in the semifinal. It had squeezed through from the third round by beating Borussia Moenchengladbach 4-0 following a 5-1 away defeat.

A year earlier, after losing 3-0 in Brussels to Anderlecht, Madrid crushed the Belgians 6-1 at its awesome stadium which is still haunted by memories of Di Stefano, Puskas, Gento and Del Sol.

Red Star, despite confidence engendered by its triumph on ice two weeks ago, will be hard-pressed to reach the last four in the almost certain company of Dynamo Kiev, Bayern Munich and Porto or Breidbyernes.

It may draw some courage, however, from recent disruptions in the Madrid camp — particularly the enforced dismantling of, and rumours of dissent within, its dazzling international strikeforce.

Mexican striker Hugo Sanchez wants to leave for Italy, but will play alongside Spain's injury-prone Emilio Butragueno, whose salary he is said to envy. Jorge Valdano, the clever Argentine, has hepatitis and is replaced by veteran firebrand winger Juanito.

Sanchez's two goals in Belgrade may prove crucial.

Even with a full-strength team, Anderlecht seems doomed against West German champion Bayern whose veteran striker Dieter Hoeneß, a two-goal hero in its 5-0 home leg triumph, said: "If we don't make it into the semifinals I'll hang up my boots right away."

At 33, it is little more than an idle threat by Hoeneß who plans to retire whether or not Bayern

succeeds in winning the trophy it lifted in 1973, 1974 and 1975.

Bayern will be strengthened by the return of sweeper Klaus Augenthaler and midfielder Lothar Matthäus and a pragmatic suppression of a team motivated by wounded pride seems likely.

Kiev will hope to double its total against Turkey's Besiktas. The Soviet champion, 5-0 up, has an ability to play soccer which delights connoisseurs.

Like the Turks, Portuguese champion Porto will also be greeted by a severe drop in temperature in Denmark.

Its hopes of defending the lead supplied by Algerian striker Rabah Madjer's goal may depend on the fitness of injured goalkeeper Josef Mlynarczyk, and its ability to cope with the forecast heavy snowfalls.

If Porto beats Breidbyernes, it will be the first Portuguese team in the semifinals since Benfica in 1972.

In the Cup Winners' Cup, Spain's Real Zaragoza and Lokomotiv Leipzig of East Germany are protected by 2-0 leads at Vitosha Sofia of Bulgaria and Sion of Switzerland respectively.

Pakistan wins 1st test series in India

BANGALORE, India (R) — Pakistan recorded its first victory in a test series in India despite a defeat 96 by Indian opener Sunil Gavaskar in possibly his last test innings.

Pakistan won the fifth and final test by 16 runs an hour after lunch on the fourth day after spinners Tauseef Ahmed and Iqbal Qasim each took four wickets on a treacherous wicket.

Azharuddin added 19 to his overnight seven not out before being caught and bowled by Qasim, who followed up by taking a return catch off Ravi Shastri when he had made four.

Qasim further tightened Pakistan's grip on the stroke of lunch by bowling Captain Kapil Dev for two to leave Gavaskar with only the tailenders as partners.

But medium pacer Roger Binny rose splendidly to the occasion relying on his pads and solid forward defensive strokes to help Gavaskar inch his way towards a 35th test century.

Gavaskar survived two appeals by Qasim — one for leg before; the other for a catch. Both were turned down by umpire V.K.

of the day, forcing Gavaskar and Mohammed Azharuddin, who had resumed at 99 for four, to play with great care on a treacherous wicket.

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Ramaswamy.

Qasim's teammates joined in the bowler's loud protests which led to a halt in play and sticks being hurled by spectators at the Pakistani players.

Gavaskar, who has indicated he could retire at the end of this series, resumed his innings 10 minutes later. But the 36-year-old's concentration had been disturbed and he soon strayed across the line, edging Qasim to Rizwan Uz-Zaman at slip.

Binny, realising it was now all or nothing, launched into the bowling, collecting a six as he tried to keep last man Maninder Singh away from the spinners.

But Binny eventually fell for 15, caught behind by Saleem Yousuf off Tauseef.

Tauseef had earlier bowled Shival Yadav and finished with four for 85 off 45.5 overs. Iqbal Qasim took four for 73 from 37.

American McKinney wants to add Olympics to titles

By John Mossman
The Associated Press

DENVER — Tamara McKinney wants to fill in an important gap on her resume before retiring to her family's horse farm in Kentucky after next season. She hopes to do it at the Calgary Olympics.

McKinney has won a World Cup overall title — a level of proficiency no other U.S. woman skier has achieved — but an Olympic medal has eluded her.

Though she has complained of fatigue after nine World Cup seasons, she plans to ski competitively one more season, which just happens to include the 1988 Winter Games.

McKinney, 24, coming off a solid slalom season during which she led the standings for much of the year before finishing second, represents America's best hope for a skiing medal in Canada — perhaps its only hope, if results

from the 1986-87 World Cup season are any indication.

She won two slalom races this season — the lone World Cup triumph for the U.S. team. She was second in two other slalom races, and no other American, male or female, finished that high in any race.

With only a handful of races left, McKinney has 127 World Cup points — more than the rest of the U.S. team combined. She ranks a respectable sixth in the World Cup overall standings.

Just a year ago, demoralised by an ongoing feud with the women's coaches, McKinney placed 24th in the overall. It was a considerable fall for the skier who won the 1983 overall title.

For the first time since the 1981 season, she failed to win a race. But in came a new coaching staff, and up went McKinney's enthusiasm. Her feathery touch on the snow — her skiing was once described as "kissing the

snow" — returned.

"I feel strong, I genuinely like skiing, again," she said. "Optimism, there are some mornings when you wake up and don't feel mean enough to face those slalom gates whapping you in the face."

"But this year has been so much better than last year. I want to give it one more shot. Who knows what will happen?"

McKinney's best Olympic performance was a fourth in the giant slalom in 1984. She had the fastest intermediate time in the first run of the slalom, but fell before the finish.

Now she's hungry for 1988. The rest of the women's team, however, has struggled and doesn't share her optimism.

Delia Armstrong, 1984 Olympic giant-slam gold medalist, and Tori Pillingher have managed fourth — and sixth-place finishes in downhill, and Eva Twardokens was sixth in a giant slalom. Pam Fletcher, whose vail downhill triumph represented the only U.S. World Cup victory last season, has only one top 15 finish all year — 11th in the downhill.

For U.S. men, the situation is even worse. Now it is the men who are demoralised in turmoil with their coaches. Skiers accuse the coaches of being negative about their poor results. Coaches counter that the skiers haven't been willing to make the commitment to excellence.

"The coaches are blaming the racers, and the racers are blaming the coaches," said three-time World Cup overall champion Phil Mahre, now retired. "It's time for the racers to show more maturity and take responsibility for their results. Their job is to ski well."

Doug Lewis has finished seventh and ninth in the last two men's downhills, and Felix McGrath has shown potential as a technical specialist. Bill Johnson, winner of the 1984 Olympic downhill, is recuperating from back and knee surgery.

Can anyone break through at Calgary?

"It's such a long way off, it's difficult to predict," said Harald Schoenherr, Alpine director of the U.S. ski team. "If our people are skiing well at that time of year, anything can happen."

U.S. coach claims officials were biased in Davis Cup

ASUNCION (R) — A top official of the U.S. Davis Cup team complained about the line judges and said he was very disappointed over the squad's 3-2 loss to Paraguay in a first round Davis Cup World Group tie.

"We would hope to have more impartial linesmen in the future," David Markin, head of the Davis Cup Division of the U.S. Tennis Association, told Reuters.

But he said that the five match series that ended in the early morning with Paraguayan star Victor Pecci's three-set victory over American Aaron Krickstein "was spectacular."

"The Paraguayan team deserves every credit in the world," Markin said.

Paraguayan newspapers splashed the victory story on their front pages. "Paraguay eliminated the United States of America, a giant of the Davis Cup," Ultima Hora newspaper said.

People in the stands acted more like soccer fans than the usually much more reserved tennis enthusiasts and the first four matches of the tie were marred by constant harassment of the U.S. team.

Members of the rowdy crowd at the day courts of Asuncion's Yacht and Tennis Club pounded on drums, shook rattles, threw pebbles onto the court and intentionally made noises at crucial points of the matches to upset the U.S. players.

The Paraguayan linesmen also repeatedly made controversial

calls favouring the home team, at several points being overruled by the court umpire. When the umpire called for the repetition of one point, the crowd chanted in unison, "son of a bitch."

Markin said the U.S. team expected the crowd to be partisan but would hope that in the future efforts would be made to find non-partisan linesmen.

He said he did not think the U.S. team would protest the incidents.

Paraguay clinched the tie on the final two singles matches, coming back from a 2-1 deficit following the U.S. team's victory in the doubles.

Hugo Chapacu, a little-known player making his second appearance for the Paraguayan Davis Cup team, squeaked past Jimmy Arias 6-4, 6-1, 5-7, 3-6, 9-7 in a five-hour and 20 minute thriller.

Markin said he was thoroughly impressed by Chapacu's ability to state a comeback after being down 5-1 in the final set of the match.

In the final match, Pecci played almost flawless tennis to overcome Krickstein, the top U.S. singles player, 6-2, 8-6, 9-7.

Pecci, who finally ended the match on his third consecutive match point, was immediately lifted to the shoulders of fans who flooded the court.

"Cry, cry Yankees," they shouted.

Paraguay will face Spain in the next round of the World Group, to be played in Asuncion in July.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Thais offered bribes to lose match

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia (AP) — Two Thai players were offered money if they would see that Thailand lost its pre-Olympic soccer match against Malaysia last Saturday. Thai team manager Yangyong Nilprorne said Tuesday. Yangyong told reporters that the two players received four or five telephone calls offering them money to throw the match. Thailand defeated Malaysia 1-0 Saturday. The two teams play again Wednesday, and Thailand will advance to the next round of Olympic qualifying if it wins. If it loses, another game will be scheduled.

Becker, Maradona win sports 'Oscars'

MILAN, Italy (R) — Top sportsmen, including Boris Becker and Diego Maradona, received awards for their contribution to sport in 1986. Pele was also given a special award as a "legendary sportsman" during a ceremony to bestow "world sports Oscars" on athletes nominated by a panel of world sports writers as the most outstanding of last year. Among other award-winners were: Ed Moses, Mike Tyson, Alain Prost and Francesco Moser.

Boxer Spinks arrested for drunk driving

WILMINGTON, Delaware (R) — Former International Boxing Federation (IBF) heavyweight champion Michael Spinks was arrested on a charge of driving under the influence of alcohol after his car crashed into a tree near his home, police said. Spinks, 30, was not hurt in the crash. He told police another car had forced him off the road. He was released pending a March 26 court appearance. New Castle County police said Spinks, who won the IBF heavyweight crown when he beat Larry Holmes in September 1985, was stripped of his title last month for refusing to make a mandatory defence against the IBF's number one contender, fellow American Tony Tucker.

Cuba trounces China in volleyball

HAVANA (R) — The Cuban women's volleyball team trounced the Olympic and world champion Chinese team in three straight games 15-8, 15-7, 15-11 in the second of a three-match series in Havana. The Cubans showed superior agility at the net and impressive power in counter-attack in repeatedly breaching the Chinese defence. Cuba won the number-two spot at the World Women's Volleyball Championships in Czechoslovakia and the matches here have been heralded as a clash between the world's two best teams.

Quinn, Sheridan named to Irish team

DUBLIN (R) — Arsenal striker Niall Quinn and Leeds' midfielder John Sheridan were given the chance of a European Championship debut for the Republic of Ireland as both were named to an 18-strong squad for the Group Seven qualifier against Bulgaria. Manager Jack Charlton is waiting for a fitness report on Bournemouth's injured Gerry Peyton before naming a second goalkeeper for the match in Sofia on April 1. Oxford midfielder Ray Houghton is battling to overcome a pelvic injury and may miss the trip.

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Economy

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets on Tuesday.

One sterling	1.5925/35	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.3130/38	Canadian dollar
	1.8320/30	West German marks
	2.0705/15	Dutch guilders
	1.5315/25	Swiss francs
	37.95/98	Belgian francs
	6.0975/1025	French francs
	1302/1303	Italian lire
	151.20/30	Japanese yen
	6.4060/4110	Swedish crowns
	6.9420/70	Norwegian crowns
	6.8975/9025	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	406.00/406.50	U.S. dollars

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Equities stood at record levels in fairly quiet pre-budget trading and at 1500 GMT the FTSE 100 share index was up 16.2 at 2,008.0, compared with its previous closing high of 2,002.8 on March 5.

The index reached an all time high of 2,021.5 on March 4. Shares stood mixed at the outset but expectations that the budget will include a cut of at least 2p in the pound in basic rate tax and a reduction in the government borrowing target pushed prices higher throughout the session.

Chancellor of the Exchequer Nigel Lawson was due to give his budget speech later Tuesday.

Dealers said prices have for some time reflected expectations of a bullish budget statement but on top of this there is a belief the measures contained in the budget will greatly increase the ruling Conservative Party's chance of winning the next general election.

News that the U.K. public sector was repaid £300 million in February was in line with expectations and helped to underpin an already firm market, dealers said.

Analysts are forecasting the chancellor will set the PSBR target for 1987/88 at around £5 billion against 7.1 billion in 1986/87.

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY, MAR. 18, 1987

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Avoid an argument with one of whom you are fond. You are able to uncover the various facets of any campaign that will help you reach a well-developed ambition.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) If others are envious of you, handle them diplomatically. Do whatever will please your mate.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) You may have difficulty with a mundane affair, but later a partner is able to clear up the confusion for you.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) A private worry can keep you from getting an early start at work. Schedule your time so that things run smoothly.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Don't involve yourself in an argument between your mate and a pal. Come to an understanding with co-workers.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Invite important guests to your home who can give you the data you need. Be very kind with them.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) If you make a new plan it will spoil your presently stable set-up, so take no chances today.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Don't argue over the price of entertainment. Try to economize in some way and build up your savings account.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Go after some aim that means a great deal to you. Enjoy recreations with your friends tonight.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) A letter could cause you to take time away from your scheduled activities. Be careful in motion.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) There may be some delay in getting your special talents working. Later you can gain a personal wish.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Don't argue with a family tie over a personal wish. Show that you know the needs of influential people.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) A private worry could interfere with your outside affairs if you permit it, so perk up and get much accomplished.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ... he, or she, will meet with problems connected with New Era activities. This will give an opportunity to your progeny to appreciate what is conventional and combine the two whereby he, or she, will achieve much success throughout the lifetime.

THE Daily Crossword

by Frank Garry

ACROSS

1 Linger

2 Look for bargains

3 Behaves

4 Sp. river

5 Sport

6 Step

7 Vessel in song

8 Decade

9 Hockey great

10 Arta singer

11 Great deal

12 Through

13 Noble rank

14 State in India

15 Football team

16 Length of time

17 Hubbub

18 First-rate

19 Violent

20 Mitochondria

21 Pig food

22 Comp. pt.

23 Motion

24 Character

25 Stretched

26 Lashed

27 Everything

28 Jacket

29 Do

30 Author Fleming

31 Inventor's initials

32 Piece from an old song

33 Excavation

34 Conical tent

35 It, then

36 Entrance

37 Rapier

38 Lads

DOWN

1 Rubens or Mae

2 Competent

3 Press

4 Dow

5 Curbed

6 Name in publishing

7 Moral

8 Cooking needs

9 Fry

10 Detects

11 Set

12 Units of weight

13 Elite police force

14 Deaf or Pst

15 Exonerate

16 Affection

17 Boy and time

18 Sailway

19 Take up again

20 Architectural moldings

21 Alternative vote

22 Port

23 Put on a pedestal

24 Was before

25 Made critical notes

26 Headed

27 Skunk

28 Lashed

29 Singing

30 Terrible

31 Muscle

32 Endure

33 Pleasure

34 Wife of General

35 Singer

36 Terrible

37 Bull. Sp.

38 Like some grain

39 Biblical patriarch

40 G's address

41 Check

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

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4 Sp. river

5 Sport

6 Step

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Syria proposes \$10.4b budget

DAMASCUS (R) — Syria's government has proposed a 1987 budget of up to 41.7 billion pounds (\$10.4 billion at official rates), a 4.8 per cent decrease on last year's allocation.

Finance Minister Qahtan Seyoufi told parliament Monday night the reduction was due mainly to a cut in investment allocations.

Recurrent expenditure of 24.2 billion pounds (\$6 billion) — almost the same as in 1986 — took account of national security needs and "Syria's role in steadfastness and liberation," he said.

The budget, which has still to be approved by parliament and endorsed by President Hafez Al Assad, also aims to meet mounting expenditure on education, health and essential imports.

Power and water projects would take up 43.5 per cent of investment allocations of 17.5 billion pounds (\$4.4 billion) and agriculture about 20 per cent, Mr. Seyoufi said.

The budget's basic goals, he added, were to restrict current spending, curb inflation and to step up reliance on local resources.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Singapore, UAE expand aviation links

SINGAPORE (R) — The United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Singapore signed an agreement Tuesday allowing them to operate as many air services as they wish between each other's countries, the civil aviation authority here announced.

The agreement allows both parties to designate any number of airlines to operate with full traffic rights between Singapore and any city in the UAE, via any intermediate countries and beyond to any countries. Singapore Airlines currently flies to and through Dubai in the UAE under a temporary operating permit.

AUA to resume flights to Iran, Iraq

VIENNA (R) — Austrian Airlines (AUA) is resuming flights to Baghdad and Tehran, suspended at the start of the year because of the Gulf war, a spokesman has said. AUA will again fly once a week to Tehran and resume its weekly flight to Baghdad from Thursday.

From March 29, AUA will fly twice weekly to Tehran. "The situation in both capitals of the Near East has stabilised to the extent that the absolute safety of flights to them is assured," the spokesman said.

Indonesia to abolish export subsidy

JAKARTA (R) — Indonesia will move towards abolition of export subsidies next month by raising the interest on subsidised export credits. A spokesman for Bank Indonesia said the rate would rise to 11.5 per cent a year from nine per cent on April 1.

The concessional credit was introduced in 1982 to strengthen the competitive edge of Indonesia's non-oil export commodities in world markets. The governor of the central bank told businessmen last Saturday the rise complied with an agreement with the United States that Jakarta would gradually reduce subsidies for trade and industries in line with the general agreement on tariffs and trade. He said that the credit subsidies would be cut in half on April 1, by 75 per cent by 1988, and by 90 per cent in 1989 before being eliminated in 1990.

China puts quota on use of farm land

BEIJING (AP) — The government, in an attempt to preserve much-needed farmland, plans to issue quotas on the use of arable land for non-farming projects, the official China Daily said Tuesday.

The newspaper quoted Mr. Wang Xianjin, general director of the state land administration, as saying this year's quota for conversion of cultivated land will be less than 790,000 acres. The report said China has lost an average of 1.28 million acres of arable land annually since 1957. In 1985, 2.47 million acres were converted for use in housing and other construction projects, it said.

The newspaper said that because of land loss and population growth, each person in China now has only 0.25 acres of cultivated land, half the amount of the early 1950s.

Kenya hikes aviation fuel prices

NAIROBI (R) — Kenya has doubled the price of jet fuel for foreign airlines, making Nairobi and Mombasa among the most expensive airports in Africa for refuelling, airline and oil industry officials said Monday.

The government ordered the increase without explanation or publicity on Jan. 23, the officials told Reuters.

"Aviation fuel prices in Kenya are currently double those in Cairo, Johannesburg and Lagos," one airline official said. Aviation oil prices were decontrolled for eight months and stood at an average of 80 cents per gallon until Jan. 23 when a government directive fixed them at \$1.57 per American gallon, an oil company official said.

Several airline sources said the new price did not affect the national carrier, Kenya Airways, but government and Kenya Airways officials declined to confirm or deny the allegations. Foreign airlines are already annoyed at the government's decision last month to exempt passengers on Kenya Airways from a 10 per cent tax on airline tickets.

Africa may halt debt repayments

ADDIS ABABA (R) — Africa may have to follow Brazil's lead in halting foreign debt repayments unless the industrialised West becomes more flexible in trade and economic policy, Ethiopian Trade Minister Tesfay Dinka said Monday.

Growing protectionism and declining commodity prices had caused a significant deterioration in the export earnings of all developing countries, he said in an opening speech to a meeting of African trade ministers in Addis Ababa.

Unless there was an early improvement in their terms of trade, "the only real choice left to these countries is to follow the route that Brazil appears to have taken recently," Mr. Tesfay said.

The two-day meeting of delegates from 50 African countries was called to work out an African consensus ahead of a Group of 77 ministerial meeting next month in Havana, where the world's developing countries will debate their strategy in economic negotiations with the West.

Mr. Tesfay accused the West of intransigence in the negotiation of recent commodity agreements. The recent failure of the International Coffee Organisation (ICO) to agree on the reintroduction of export quotas would mean that "several African countries will not have the foreign exchange to import essential items such as medicine, fertilisers and spare parts," he said.

Coffee accounts for 60 per cent of Ethiopia's exports and the recent fall in world coffee prices has sharply reduced its foreign exchange earnings.

Mr. Adebayo Adedeji, executive secretary of the U.N. Economic Commission for Africa, told the meeting that a net outflow of resources from Africa was increasing.

He blamed it on high interest rates, debt servicing obligations and repatriation of profits by foreign investors.

Africa paid \$13 billion to service its overall foreign debt last year and by 1990 annual service payments were expected to rise to between \$16 and \$24 billion, Mr. Adedeji said.

He accused the industrialised countries of failing to provide additional resources to implement the U.N. programme for Africa's economic recovery and development, despite Africa's own willingness to raise two thirds of the necessary capital.

The U.N. programme, approved last year, calls for \$128 billion of economic investment in Africa over five years.

Western donors were asked to contribute \$46 billion, with the rest being raised from local resources, but Mr. Adedeji said the donors had not responded as hoped.

In view of this poor response, he said, "it is possible that by the year 2000 nearly all African countries, except a few, will be categorised as least developed countries."

At present, 27 African states are officially listed in this category.

U.S. dependence on M.E. oil likely to persist

NEW YORK (R) — A Reagan administration study has concluded the United States will be dependent on Middle East oil into the next century and the government must take steps to reduce the country's vulnerability, the New York Times said Tuesday.

The paper said the interagency government study "found a serious oil-dependency problem resulting from steadily falling domestic production and rising demand for imported oil."

The study concluded that by 1995 the United States will be relying on foreign countries for 50 per cent of its oil — more than the 48 per cent peak reached in 1977 and far above the 33 per cent rate during the 1973-74 Arab oil embargo.

The United States now imports about 38 per cent of its oil needs, up from 27 per cent a year ago, the paper said.

The paper said recommendations sent to the White House by Energy Secretary John H. Garley included financial incentives to raise domestic oil production by one million barrels a year from the current 8.4 million barrels.

W. Germany holds largest foreign reserves

WASHINGTON (AP) — The value of West Germany's foreign reserve holdings increased by 4.7 per cent to \$52.9 billion in 1986, according to the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

All but five of 20 major industrial countries reported increased reserves, according to an analysis in the current issue of IMF Survey, a semi-monthly publication.

Japan moved into second place as it increased its holdings by 42 per cent to \$43.1 billion, the report said, while U.S. reserves rose by 10.3 per cent to \$38.3 billion.

One source said Monday that the United States traditionally does not hold quantities of foreign money in proportion to the size of its economy. Dollars are the main medium of exchange in the world and the United States can always issue as many dollars as it wants, he noted.

The reports said Britain's reserves rose by 28.6 per cent to \$18.9 billion, France's by 6.2 per cent to \$32.1 billion, and Italy's by 15.6 per cent to \$20.4 billion.

Declines were registered in Denmark, Finland, Ireland, Norway and The Netherlands, the IMF said.

Holdings throughout the world rose by 2.4 per cent to more than \$517 billion despite the drop in the price of the dollar, the currency in which many countries' reserves are largely held, the analysis said.

Strong yen batters Japanese economy

TOKYO (R) — Japan's economy turned in its worst performance for 12 years in 1986 and private economists Tuesday saw little chance of a quick recovery.

With consumer spending unexpectedly sagging in the final months of last year, the best that can be hoped for in the months ahead is continued sluggish economic growth, they said.

The government's economic planning agency said Tuesday that growth slowed to 2.5 per cent last year from 4.7 per cent in 1985, as the economy was battered by the strong yen.

The 1986 performance was the worst since 1974, when the economy contracted by 1.4 per cent during the first oil price crisis.

The 40 per cent rise of the yen against the dollar over the last two years has hit Japan's exporters hard, forcing them to raise prices and lose sales in the huge U.S. market.

Until now, the economy has been supported by strong spending by shoppers. But a surprise drop in consumer spending late last year has cast doubt on the ability of consumers to support a recovery in the months ahead, the economists said.

Consumer spending dropped 0.7 per cent in the final quarter of 1986 from the previous three months, the first drop in 12 years.

Government officials blamed the decline largely on the unusually warm winter weather, which cut sales of clothing, heaters and other seasonal goods.

But private economists were less certain.

"Sure, consumers may have spent less on winter clothes or heaters because of the warm winter, but they have done so because they have become even more uneasy about their future pay rises," said Mr. Shoji Saito, general manager of Mitsui Bank's economic research division.

With unemployment already at record levels, due to the impact of the strong yen on exports, and expected to rise even further, workers will stop pushing for large rises and probably save rather than spend whatever they get, economists said.

Mr. Masao Suzuki, senior economist at the Bank of Tokyo, said weakened consumer confidence was the most worrying factor because without brisk consumer spending Japan could not achieve domestically generated economic growth.

The United States has been pressing Japan for months to boost domestic demand and imports as its export-driven economy has slowed under the pressure of the strong yen.

With little sign of an economic upturn soon, many Japanese businessmen have joined the chorus of overseas voices calling for an about-face in the government's tight economic policy.

Government spending actually rose a sharp 14.4 per cent in the fourth quarter of 1986, but economists said that was an aberration that would not be repeated.

"This is just a one-shot spending (figure) and we can't expect that high level of public-sector consumption in the following quarter," said Mr. Johnsen Takahashi, chief economist at Mitsubishi Research Institute.

Given the lack of significant extra government expenditure and continued sluggish consumer spending, the economy might contract in the current quarter, he said.

EC records first trade surplus

LUXEMBOURG (R) — The European Community (EC) recorded its first trade surplus in 1986 thanks to cheaper oil and other raw materials, the EC statistics agency Eurostat said Tuesday.

But a Eurostat report said the EC paid a price. Commodity producing nations had to cut imports of EC industrial goods because of the pinch on their hard currency earnings.

The result was that the value of EC exports fell for the first time in the 30-year history of the bloc.

Eurostat said the value of imports fell in 1986 to an estimated 335 billion European Currency Units (\$379 billion) from 460 billion in 1985, despite a seven per cent rise in volume.

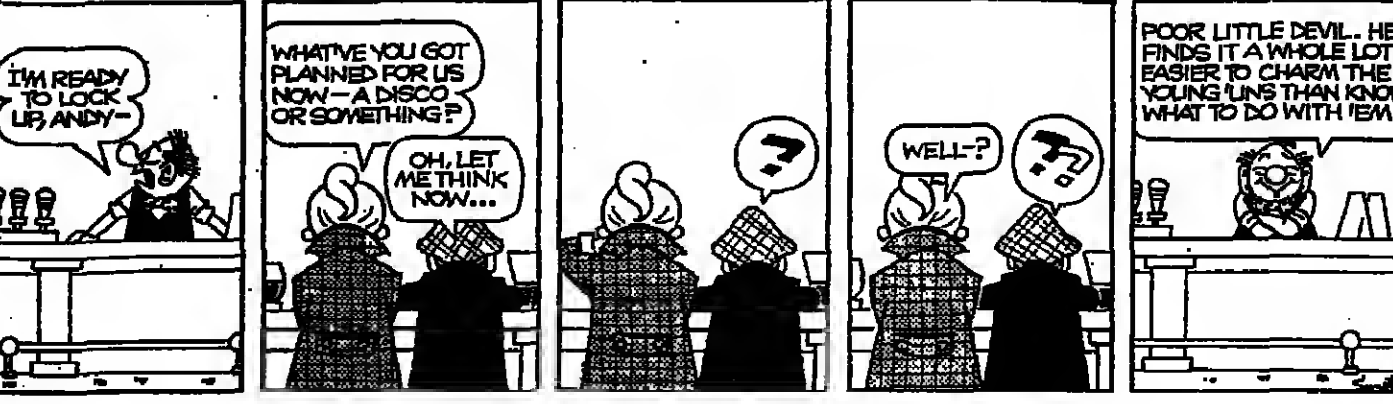
Peanuts



Mutt'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



THE BETTER HALF

By Harris



JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

TIFUR

DUIHM

LUMEFF

CLAICO

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer here: IT THEM

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: SCOUT BATHE NESTLE WEASEL

Answer: She dated any man who could pass this — THE "ASSET" TEST

Aquino delays order to disarm vigilante groups fighting rebels

DAVAO, Philippines (R) — Philippine soldiers reacted guardedly Tuesday to orders from President Corazon Aquino to dismantle the armed civilian vigilante groups they have promoted to help fight Communist rebels.

Mrs. Aquino herself drew back from an order for "immediate steps" to disarm private armies and other armed groups and issued an amended order that merely called for a plan for their dissolution to be drawn up by the end of April.

Military officials told Reuters they regarded the civilian groups as an important part of the war against the rebels but added they would take steps to ensure that the dismantling of militia forces throughout the Philippines would not create a security void.

Lieutenant-Colonel Franco Calida, military chief of the Davao area, which spawned the vigilante groups, told Reuters in

an interview: "Village self-defence units in every barangay (village) are necessary."

Disbanding the groups would affect the region's whole security system, he said, but added he would wait to see final guidelines.

Mrs. Aquino Monday issued two orders dated March 13. One called for immediate action on implementing a constitutional provision disbanding armed groups. The second called for the drafting of an executive order setting up a single national police force.

In a revised order issued Tuesday, the two were merged together. There was no reference

to "immediate" and the order asked the secretaries of national defence and local government to submit a draft plan by April 30.

The constitution specifically provides for the disarming of the 70,000-strong Civilian Home Defence Force (CHDF) established during the regime of deposed President Ferdinand Marcos.

Government and military officials said Monday the more recently formed vigilante groups like those fostered by Col. Calida in and around Davao, the Philippines' biggest city after Manila, would also be dissolved.

Human-rights activists have accused the civilian groups of grave abuses and demanded their disbanding.

One senior military official, who declined to be named, said: "If not implemented properly, the provision can create a security void. The CHDF is important in

territorial security."

"But we have anticipated this and studies are being made to try to fill that void," he said.

Military commanders in Davao said the city has been cleared of rebels and credited the groups, including the alsa masa (uprising of the masses), for the success of the government's counter-insurgency campaign in the area.

Military Chief General Fidel Ramos has backed the operation of the vigilante groups and said similar organisations should be encouraged in other areas.

Armed forces spokesman Col. Honesto Isleta said the military would follow Mrs. Aquino's order and said those who resisted would face arrest.

The spokesman for Defence Secretary Rafael Ileta said the secretary had not received Mrs. Aquino's order and declined to comment on the issue.

Seoul offers talks with North to ease tension

SEOUL (R) — South Korea Tuesday proposed a meeting of prime ministers to improve relations with arch enemy North Korea, but said the two countries must first restore mutual trust.

South Korean Prime Minister Lho Shin-Yong, proposed in a letter to his northern counterpart Li Gu-Mo that they meet to "discuss comprehensively various issues raised by the two sides to improve relations and ease tension."

The letter, delivered to the North at the border village of Panmunjom, was in reply to a recent North Korean call for high-level political and military talks.

The Koreans fought a bloody three-year war to 1953 and tension remains high along a 240-kilometre demilitarised zone on the frontier.

Mr. Lho said the prime ministers could discuss any proposal to

be made by the North, including political and military issues.

But the prime ministers should meet "after the minimum conditions for mutual trust have been created by the convening of a water resources meeting and the resumption of the suspended dialogues," he added.

Mr. Lho was referring to discussions on a controversial northern dam project that Seoul has said is aimed at causing catastrophic floods in the South.

The letter said if the proposed meeting took place, this would open the way for summit talks between South Korean President Chun Doo Hwan and northern leader Kim Il-Sung.

A Seoul government spokesman told reporters that South Korea, which had rejected an earlier North Korean offer for high-level talks, was now making a "very positive and comprehensive counter-proposal."

Security tightened in south India over train bombing

MADRAS, India (R) — Security was tightened in south India and along the country's rail network Tuesday as investigators questioned Tamil separatists in connection with a train bombing that killed at least 32 people.

At least two men have been detained in Tamil Nadu state where two powerful bombs derailed a crowded express on Sunday, sending the engine and eight coaches careering off a bridge into a dry river bed.

State-run All-India Radio also said investigators had questioned about 75 people, all connected with guerrilla groups fighting for an independent Tamil homeland in Sri Lanka, just across the Palk Strait from this southernmost Indian state.

Authorities said security had been tightened across the state with reinforced police pickets at major public buildings.

Railways Minister Madhav Rao Scindia also said patrolling had been intensified along India's 60,000-kilometre rail network

over which 11,000 trains run daily.

"It was a wanton and senseless act of terrorism," Mr. Scindia said of the bombing that derailed the Rockfort Express carrying 1,200 people between Tiruchirappalli and Madras.

Police told Reuters at least 32 people were killed but recovery efforts were continuing and unofficial sources said the toll could reach at least 100. Scindia told reporters here that 214 people were injured.

The two men were picked up after sniffer dogs led police from the site where the bombs were set off to a village near the Mandaiyay Bridge. No further details were given.

Posters were found on the bridge supporting the cause of the Tamil guerrillas whose headquarters are in Madras, the state capital.

A camp of one group was cordoned off and searched Monday by police, authorities said.

Indian parliament may debate Gandhi-Singh row

NEW DELHI (R) — The chairman of India's Upper House of parliament Tuesday postponed until Friday a decision on whether to allow discussion of the public row between President Zail Singh and Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi.

The Press Trust of India news agency said R. Venkataraman told the Rajya Sabha he would give a ruling after studying how Australia and Canada dealt with such constitutional problems.

Opposition parties are preparing to seek a debate in the Lok Sabha, the Lower House, Wednesday about a letter by Mr. Singh accusing Mr. Gandhi of misleading parliament.

A spokesman for the Telugu Desam, the largest opposition party in parliament, told Reuters the party would request that the house be allowed to discuss the letter.

A senior government official Monday night told Reuters he expected the opposition to introduce a no-confidence motion.

Political analysts said Mr. Gandhi's Congress (I) Party, with

large majorities in both houses, might welcome this as a means of killing off a potentially embarrassing issue.

Mr. Singh's letter to Mr. Gandhi, leaked to the mass-circulated Indian Express, which published the letter on its front page last week, said Mr. Gandhi had misled the house by saying he had regularly consulted the president on state matters as required by the constitution.

Mr. Gandhi has so far not officially reacted to the letter or its publication, which has brought the tense relations between the two leaders out into the open.

The speaker of the Lower House last week refused to allow any discussion of the wrangle, saying according to constitutional practices the president could not be named.

Mr. Venkataraman, however, said opposition parties would press for a debate in the Lok Sabha on the grounds that the president's name was allowed to be mentioned in parliament last year.

Indonesia imposes curbs on journalists ahead of elections

JAKARTA (R) — Indonesia announced restrictions Tuesday on foreign journalists covering next month's elections, limiting access to the countryside and requiring authorisation to report on activities in the capital.

Information Ministry guidelines issued to foreign reporters effectively restrict access to the countryside where 80 per cent of Indonesia's 168 million people live.

They require journalists to report their presence to the Information Department and certain government officials when they visit any of the 27 provinces of Indonesia, the largest country in South East Asia. Letters of authorisation are required for coverage in the capital, Jakarta.

Senior information Ministry official Sukarno, who is in charge of print media across the giant equatorial country, said the measures were "to facilitate your work in covering the elections."

"They are not designed to restrict or hamper you. They are just for administrative purposes," Sukarno told a news conference.

The official guidelines were announced ahead of the start of the formal campaign period which starts on March 24. The elections for 400 seats in the 500 seat state legislature will be held on April 23. The other 100 seats are reserved for representatives of the military.

The ballot is the fourth to be held in Indonesia since President

Suharto came to power 21 years ago. Indonesia, the world's largest Muslim nation, is a major oil and primary commodity producer.

The restrictions limit foreign journalists' access to major cities and towns. They will be required to have special passes and be accompanied by guides "if considered necessary."

Journalists coming from outside the country to cover the elections must apply for visas before April 25. They will not be allowed to enter the country without a visa between April 25 and June 10.

This is because official counting of ballots will not be complete until June or possibly later, Sukarno said.

There are only three legal parties in Indonesia, with the ruling Golkar Party expected to take at least 70 per cent of the vote, against 64 per cent in the last elections in 1982.

The two other parties are the Muslim-based United Development Party and the Indonesian Democracy Party, created from a fusion of nationalist and Christian parties.

The restrictions reflect the careful planning for the polls by the government and armed forces, who are anxious to avoid any trouble.

In the last elections about 60 people were killed in accidents and poll-related violence, including riots in Jakarta.

COLUMNS 7&8

Couple pays \$265 for a kiss

MANAMA, Bahrain (AP) — A young Bahraini couple paid 100 dinars (\$265) in fines after being convicted of kissing in a car parked by the seaside, court sources reported. The couple appeared at a hearing this weekend and the woman told the judge, "we stopped kissing once the police said not to." Bahrain is fairly strict on public morality, although it upholds secular ideals and its social climate is comparatively more relaxed than its theocratic neighbours. The country has a high percentage of foreign workers, but Westerners know better than to kiss in public. The punishment that the court meted out on the kissing couple was divided equally between the man and the woman — each paid 50 dinars (\$132.5).

Prisoner wins \$2.5 million

ZURICH, Switzerland (AP) — A man jailed for attempted manslaughter won nearly four million Swiss francs (\$2.5 million) in the national lottery, a newspaper reported Tuesday. The 60-year-old inmate was the only player who chose the six winning numbers in the weekend lottery, the German-language newspaper Blick reported. It said the man, who was not identified by name, was slated to be released in a few weeks from a jail in Solothurn, in north west Switzerland. The paper quoted a fellow inmate as saying the new multimillionaire was "beside himself with joy." To play the Swiss lottery, a person must enter at least two cards costing one franc (65 cents) each. Contestants choose six of the 45 numbers on the card, and anybody who chooses three or more numbers that are drawn is a winner, with prizes starting at five francs (\$3.25).

Drummer Buddy Rich has brain surgery

LOS ANGELES (R) — Doctors removed a malignant brain tumour from drummer and band leader Buddy Rich in a four-hour operation, a hospital spokesman said. Rich, 69, was in good condition at the University of California at Los Angeles Hospital and would probably be discharged in two weeks, the spokesman added. Rich played drums in the bands of Artie Shaw, Tommy Dorsey, Benny Carter and Harry James before starting his own big band 21 years ago.

Life expectancy longer in Shanghai

PEKING (R) — The average citizen of Shanghai, a heavily polluted industrial city, lives for 74.27 years — five years longer than the average in mainly rural China and one year longer than in the developed world, the New China News Agency said Tuesday.

2 missing for 24 years write from N. Korea

TOKYO (R) — Two Japanese fishermen presumed dead after their boat was found abandoned 24 years ago have written to relatives from North Korea for the first time. Socialist member of parliament Yuzuru Shimazaki of the Japan-Korea Parliament Friendship Association told Reuters the two were married and had children by their North Korean wives. He said the two wrote to relatives recently saying they wanted to see their parents and families, but did not explain why they had remained silent since going missing in the Sea of Japan in 1963. Shimazaki said Sotoku Terakokoshi was aged 24 and his nephew Takeshi was 13 when they were reported missing off the coast of Ishikawa prefecture in central Japan. Private letters from Communist North Korea, with which Japan has no diplomatic relations, are rare. "The fact that the letter did get through is a positive sign of North Korea's willingness to resume talks over the issue of split families, with some members in North Korea and others in Japan," Shimazaki said. North Korea cut off all family contacts with relatives in Japan after the 1950-53 Korean War, but Shimazaki said he would seek to reunite the men with their relatives in Japan.

Reagan's blood routinely checked for AIDS

WASHINGTON (R) — President Reagan's blood was routinely checked for AIDS and hepatitis this year because of blood transfusions he received after he was shot in an assassination attempt in 1981, a White House official said. The official said the tests, which showed Reagan had neither AIDS nor hepatitis, were conducted as a standard procedure before the president's prostate surgery in January. Mr. Reagan was shot outside a Washington hotel on March 30, 1981, by John Hinckley who was found not guilty by reason of insanity and was committed to a mental hospital.

China aims to clean up public toilets

PEKING (R) — China's public toilets, a culture shock for many Western travellers, are being given a clean-up, the China Daily said Tuesday. It said work had already started in Peking to install more flushing devices with the aim of making them universal in the capital's 6,000 public lavatories. It quoted a Sanitation Department survey several years ago which found the hydrogen sulphide level in Peking's public toilets was 230 times the limit set by Japanese authorities. "Insufficient toilets, improper distribution, shabby facilities, bad management and small are problems besetting people every day," the newspaper said. Most older houses in China do not have toilets and residents have to use public ones. Pointing out that the state of public toilets indicated a country's level of civilisation, the newspaper praised cities which had taken steps to improve ventilation and plant trees and flowers near toilets. Design was improving, it said. Older toilets were being replaced by ones with glazed tiles and artificial marble.

Judge orders retarded girl sterilised

LONDON (AP) — Three appeal court judges on Monday ordered the sterilisation of a 17-year-old girl for her own good because she has a mental age of five. The girl was becoming sexually aware and the consequences of her being pregnant were "frightening," said Judge Sir George Dillon, supported by Judges Sir Stephen Brown and Sir Donald Nicholas. "She does not link, and never will be able to link, sexual intercourse with the birth of babies and would be wholly unable to look after a baby or child if she were to have one," the judge said. "She is as a small child herself mentally... She could not understand what was happening to her if the pregnancy ran its full course and she were in natural labour," he said. Dillon said although sterilisation would "take away a basic human right," the loss of that right "would mean nothing" to the girl, referred to only as Jeannette. Jeannette will be 18 in May. She is a ward of court in the care of Sunderland Borough Council in north east England, whose application to have the girl sterilised was supported by her mother.

Teen's suicide linked to six others

ROLLING MEADOWS, Illinois (AP) — Newspaper clippings about six teen-age suicides were found in the bedroom of a 14-year-old boy who apparently killed himself by inhaling car exhaust fumes, police have reported. The death of Kevin Pyter of this north west Chicago suburb was similar to those last week of four New Jersey teen-agers and two teen-age girls in Alsip, a suburb south of Chicago, said Sgt. Douglas Larson. His death came amid growing concern over teen-age suicides in the United States in recent months. Television stations and newspapers devoted heavy coverage to the recent incidents. The youth's Saturday night atop the roof of the family station wagon in their garage, Larson said. Carbon-monoxide poisoning was suspected as the cause of the death, Larson said. "He had newspaper clippings — apparently he cut out of a paper, but maybe someone else did — under his bed," said Larson.

Massachusetts governor to run for presidency

BOSTON (R) — Massachusetts Governor Michael Dukakis, a newcomer to national politics, has ended weeks of speculation with the announcement he plans to seek the 1988 Democratic presidential nomination.

Mr. Dukakis said he had authorised the formation of a presidential campaign committee and would make a formal announcement of candidacy in Boston on May 4.

Comparing the presidential campaign to the Boston Marathon in which he runs every

year, Dukakis said:

"I have the energy to run this marathon, the strength to run this country, the experience to manage our government and the values to lead our people."

"With your help and your prayers, a son of Greek immigrants named Mike Dukakis can become the next president of the United States."

The 53-year-old Dukakis, is serving his third term as governor. He was reelected with 67 per cent of the vote last November.

U.S. seeks new FBI chief

WASHINGTON (R) — Wanted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI): A person of integrity and political independence with considerable experience in management and law enforcement, to serve as its next director.

U.S. Justice Department officials said Monday the Reagan administration is still searching for a successor for FBI Director William Webster, nominated by President Reagan nearly two weeks ago to head the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA).

The officials said the top candidate was U.S. district court Judge

Lowell Jensen of San Francisco, a long-time associate of Attorney General Edwin Meese who worked closely with Mr. Meese for many years before he was appointed to the bench last July.

The officials were unable to say when Mr. Meese would submit his recommendation to the White House on the appointment, which carries a 10-year term.

They said Mr. Meese, among other things, wants someone who has a reputation for integrity, who does not have close political ties to Mr. Reagan and who has experience in management and in law enforcement.

Ireland still awaits U.S.

explanation on Iran passports

WASHINGTON (R) — Irish Foreign Minister Brian Lenihan said Tuesday Dublin was still waiting for Washington to explain reports that a U.S. delegation used false Irish passports on a 1986 trip to Iran.

"It has not yet been resolved," he told reporters during a trip to the United States to discuss bilateral issues and celebrate St. Patrick's Day.

He said shortly before meeting Secretary of State George Shultz that Ireland was relying on the United States to provide an answer to the passport question. Aides said it was likely Mr. Lenihan would raise the issue in the meeting.

Mr. Lenihan is accompanying Prime Minister Charles Haughey who will celebrate St. Patrick's Day with President Reagan at the Irish embassy. Officials could not say whether Mr. Haughey would raise the issue with Mr. Reagan.

Irish Ambassador Badraic Mackernan said Dublin considered the matter serious and was handling it through diplomatic channels.

He also said Ireland had asked Iran for help in clearing up the question but was getting a slow response.

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GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OWAN SHARP
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BETTER SAFE THAN SORRY

North-South vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ 6 4 2
♥ A 9 4
♦ K J 10 5
♣ 7 5 2

EAST
♠ Q J 8
♥ K 5 3 2
♦ 8 3
♣ Q J 10

SOUTH
♠ A K 10 7 5 3
♥ 6
♦ A 5
♣ 9 4

The bidding:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 1 NT Pass
2 ♠ Pass 4 ♠ Pass
Pass Pass
Opening lead: Queen of ♣

No matter how easy your contract seems, take time out to consider the best line. At rubber bridge or in team competition, your first duty is to make your contract; overtricks can wait.

Let's suppose you reach four spades on the auction shown. Your jump rebid in your own suit was invitational, and partner's ace, king and three trumps were more than he needed to raise to game.

At first glance it might seem that you need either a 2-2 trump break, or the ace of clubs outside, or the

player with three diamonds to have the long trump to make your contract. If you looked no further into the matter you would probably be defeated. You would win the opening lead and bang out your high trumps. When East turned up with a trump trick, you would have to decide whether to play on diamonds or cross to dummy to lead a club toward your king. Whichever line you chose, you would be doomed to defeat because the gods were not smiling that day.

However, if you want to rely on your skill rather than the deities, you could insure your contract. Win the ace of hearts and lead a trump. If East follows with the eight or nine, simply cover with the ten. West must get that trick, but you can win any return, draw trumps and then discard a club on the table's long diamond. You would lose at most one trump and two clubs.

If East produces an honor on your trump lead, win and cross to dummy with a diamond to lead another trump. Again, you intend covering whatever card East produces. And your technique is rewarded. As the cards lie, you pick up the trump suit without losing a trick, so that after you discard a club on the fourth diamond and lead toward the king, you lose two club tricks because West has the ace, but no more.

Moscow thanks U.S. for rescuing Soviet sailors

WASHINGTON (R) — The U.S. government has thanked the Soviet Union for rescuing 37 Soviet sailors from their sinking ship in a storm off Cape Cod, U.S. officials said.

The officials said the thanks were delivered by Soviet Charge d'Affaires Oleg Sokolov in a visit to the State Department.

In an apparent reciprocal gesture of friendship, administration officials said President Reagan would receive the seamen and their rescuers at the White House.

Coast Guard helicopters rescued unharmed all 37 crewmen of the 6,023-ton Komсомолец Kirov on Saturday about 200 miles south of Cape Cod, Massachusetts.

The crewmen were first taken to Atlantic City, and then to a Soviet recreational centre about 100 kilometres from Washington.

The ship was heading for Cuba with about 10,000 tonnes of flour when its cargo suddenly shifted in 15-20 foot (4.5 to six metre) seas, the Coast Guard said.

Izvestia demands secret ballots at journalists congress

MOSCOW (R) — Delegates from the government newspaper Izvestia interrupted an election at the Soviet Journalists' Congress, demanding a secret ballot instead of an open vote, Western journalists said Tuesday.

Western Journalists who watched the session on closed-circuit television Monday said the Izvestia demand was accepted and a two-hour break followed while ballot papers were prepared.

Alexander Bovin, a senior Izvestia political analyst and delegate to the congress, declined to comment on what he said was a closed session to select a new executive board for the Journalists' Union at the end of the congress.

Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev has called for more democratic procedures, including secret ballots, in elections for Communist Party posts. He has made clear he faces political opposition to his idea as well as other aspects of his reform drive.

Mr. Gorbachev has tried to enlist the state-controlled media in his campaign for more efficiency and openness and the press has become much more frank and critical in its reporting.

The congress re-elected Pravda editor Viktor Afanasyev as union leader and passed a resolution urging journalists to fight "inertia, sluggish thinking, empty rhetoric and bragging," according to Soviet news agency (TASS).

Mr. Afanasyev said at the start of the five-yearly congress that "restricted zones" still existed for reporters while some journalists had not adapted to the new, more honest style.

"The congress underlines that reconstruction at editorial boards and organisations of the union, especially at a district and city level, is proceeding slowly, often formally and with difficulties," TASS said.

The official Soviet press and broadcasting system has become much more critical and has touched on many once-taboo subjects since Mr. Gorbachev took office in March 1985.

Sakharovs report 8 more Soviet dissidents released

MOSCOW (R) — Eight more Soviet dissidents, including two of the most prominent dissenters of the late 1970s, have been released from prison and labour camps in the past few days, Yelena Sakharov has said.

Mrs. Sakharov, wife of Nobel Peace laureate and physicist Andrei Sakharov, told reporters by telephone three of the eight were freed earlier Monday and five others late last week.

She said the latest releases brought to 86 the count she and her husband have kept since they themselves were allowed to return to Moscow from internal exile in December.

Soviet officials have said that some 150 dissenters jailed in the 1970s and early 1980s were being released and the cases of 150 more were under study.

Among those freed last week were Ivan Kovalyov and Tanya Osipov, husband and wife who were serving sentences for anti-Soviet agitation and propaganda after playing a prominent role in publicising alleged Soviet human rights abuses.

Both had been told they could emigrate, Mrs. Sakharov said. The three freed Monday were Galina Barats, who was serving a nine-year sentence, Alexei Smirnov, who was serving 10 years of labour camp and exile, and Mikhail Rifkin, serving 12 years — all on charges of anti-Soviet agitation and propaganda.

Barats' husband Vasily was among the first group of dissenters freed early in February. They were active in dissident religious groups.

Rifkin was closely involved in publication of the underground "Chronicle of current events" in the 1970s and other dissident publications later, and Smirnov helped publish a dissident socialist journal.

They require journalists to report their presence to the Information Department and certain government officials when they visit any of the 27 provinces of Indonesia, the largest country in South East Asia. Letters of authorisation are required for coverage in the capital, Jakarta.

Senior information Ministry official Sukarno, who is in charge of print media across the giant equatorial country, said the measures were "to facilitate your work in covering the elections."

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"They are not designed to restrict or hamper you. They are just for administrative purposes," Sukarno told a news conference.

The official guidelines were announced ahead of the start of the formal campaign period which starts on March 24. The elections for 400 seats in the 500 seat state legislature will be held on April 23. The other 100 seats are reserved for representatives of the military.

The ballot is the fourth to be held in Indonesia since President

medals, the court heard. "I killed, I shot people, I burnt them and I ordered death sentences because I was myself under orders," Pravda quoted Tarakanov as telling the court.